

Rotterdam, 29.07.2022

Empty container shipment to seaports

Dear Customers,

The current situation in the seaports of Rotterdam / Antwerp continues to worsen due to the ongoing massive ship delays. This results in almost daily changes of the cargo opening / cargo closings times. These lead to regular rebookings and backlog at all terminals involved.

In addition, some seaport terminals have stopped accepting empty containers. Sometimes only one shipping company is affected, sometimes several and this also changes almost daily.

Enclosed is the current message from ECT:

Information for our customers

Subject: delivery of empty containers ECT Delta terminal

Dear relation,

Based on the overall stack situation, we can only accept empty containers per shipping line with a specific outgoing booking per object from Monday 01 August 15:00 hours, based on a predetermined maximum number.

These measures apply for a longer period, which means that the general empty bookings will be closed from Monday 01 August 15:00 until further notice.

At any time, the situation at the terminal may require us to adjust the number of empty containers to be delivered per shipping line or to close the gate completely for one or more shipping lines.

The large number of import containers has a huge impact on the stack utilization of the ECT Delta terminal. Hereby the urgent request to arrange the transport in such a way that when a container is delivered, a container is picked up as well, if possible. We also request that you use the evening and night as much as possible when visiting our terminal.

For feeders and barges for all shipping lines, arrangements can be made with Central Yard Management (CYM) for the delivery of empty containers. These depend on the existing stock of empty containers, the evacuation plan agreed with the shipping line and the overall situation in the Yard. The method here is as follows. In the first instance, the shipping line makes an agreement with the terminal, after which the barge operator can coordinate the options with CAL, the rail operator with CAR and the feeder operator with CAF.

See also our ECT App for current information.

We apologise for the inconvenience and will inform you when the situation changes.

ECT is not liable for the proper transmission of this message.
No rights can be derived from the content of this message.

Therefore, we kindly ask you to check the acceptance of the requested empty containers in advance. Please provide us with all transport-relevant data for the loading of the empty containers when placing the order.

If the seaport terminals decide not to unload containers due to lack of space, etc., even though they were registered, we ask for your understanding in advance that we cannot influence these factors and cannot accept any liability for any resulting extra costs.

We thank you for your understanding and your kind support.

Optimodal Nederland B.V.

