

# NEWSLETTER NO. 43/2016

## HURRICANE MATTHEW'S IMPACT ON FLORIDA, GEORGIA, AND THE CAROLINAS

Dear Customers,

As we all know the impending Hurricane Matthew has already forced mandatory evacuations in the state of Florida. The LTL carriers terminals have already closed in Florida, Charleston, South Carolina, and Atlanta, GA area. With the states declaring a "State of Emergency", this means LTL carriers have pulled their drivers off the road and will not resume operations until government officials lift the State of Emergency in each area affected by the storm.

What this means for you and your customers, is shipments that were in the LTL carrier pipelines have been stopped for the areas affected. When the storm clears out the carriers will resume operations. However, a storm of this magnitude will affect service levels within the LTL carriers network well outside the affected areas. LTL carriers will shift drivers from the northern regions to help cover the southern areas.

When a carrier shuts down operations the following obstacles occur:

- Equipment imbalances
- Heavy volumes of cargo
- Shortage of drivers

It can take a carrier as much as a week or two to fully be out from under to resume normal operations. I ask that you please advise your customer that not only are the ocean vessels affected but inland transportation will be as well.

We will not have further details until over the weekend to fully provide you with how back logged the carriers will be. When there is this type of situation the Federal Government will commodore TL carriers as well as LTL carriers so that they can coordinate the movement of supplies, food and equipment into affected areas. This too will add to the back log of cargo movement within our network.

Thanks for your understanding and have a safe day.

Austromar

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