

THE SHIPPING STANDARD

OUR EXPERTISE YOUR ADVANTAGE

PLANNING, SUSTAINABILITY,
AND TECHNOLOGY –
“OH MY!”: A VMA RECAP

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EXPERT

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OEC GROUP





**Planning,
& Sustainability,
& Technology -
"Oh My!":
A VMA Recap**

PLANNING, SUSTAINABILITY, AND TECHNOLOGY – "OH MY!": A VMA RECAP

Advanced planning, new technology, and sustainability are topics that dominated the conversation at the Virginia Maritime Association's International Trade Symposium this year. During this two-day conference, industry leaders discussed and expanded on these ideas as they grappled with the current state of our industry and gave their perspective on the best way to move forward.

Two terms that were continually focused on throughout the gathering were "customer service" and "creative solutions." Much of the discussion focused on the need for more human interaction and the value of creative solutions from experts in the industry who can problem solve situations that technology is not currently equipped to untangle.

One of the ways it was suggested to achieve this is for shippers to prioritize having a deep understanding of their supply chain. This idea of knowing your supply chain, being prepared, and planning in advance was seen to be essential for the future of logistics, as this could help the industry take advantage of emerging technologies like artificial intelligence.

“It was refreshing to hear experts from every corner of our industry show their commitment to ideas and trends we have been advising for the past two years, including the importance of planning ahead and working with an advisor who can problem solve when the supply chain does not operate in its normal condition,” explained Anthony Fullbrook, President of OEC Group’s Northeast Region. “Between ongoing inventory issues, exploding e-commerce demand, and current and future regulations, it’s clear that the need to ‘know your supply chain’ is a priority that is both multifaceted and absolutely necessary.”

Another topic that received significant attention was the intersection of tech and sustainability. During the conference, it was revealed that the industry could expect a shift from LNG to biofuels and ammonia.

Additionally, it was revealed that while the industry’s focus tends to be on sustainable vessels and trucks, rail is also seeking more sustainable options. Specifically, CSX outlined that there are ongoing initiatives at the company, working alongside the EPA, to develop biodiesel solutions that are not just green, but are also just as reliable as any traditional rail service for their customers.

“There is a real market for sustainable options and many shippers want to begin accessing these up-and-coming climate conscious options as soon as possible,” said Logan Cooper Senior Regional Traffic Manager out of OEC Group’s St. Louis office. “I am encouraged by the direction of our industry, and I think these exciting and achievable sustainable initiatives are important developments we can all get behind.”

INTERVIEW WITH AN EXPERT



CMA CGM North American President Peter Levesque, ONE North American President Takashi Masuda, and ZIM USA President Nissim Yochai discuss the future of carrier alliances, the wave of newbuilds entering the market, carrier investments, and industry issues that keeps them up at night.

[*Click Here to Listen*](#)



At this year's VMA 23, the Honorable Glenn Youngkin, Governor of Virginia, addressed the attendees and gave his insight on a variety of essential industry topics.

[*Click Here to Listen*](#)



TIME TO DESTROY THE SUPPLY CHAIN!



AND THAT TRAITOR TOM BRADY, TOO!



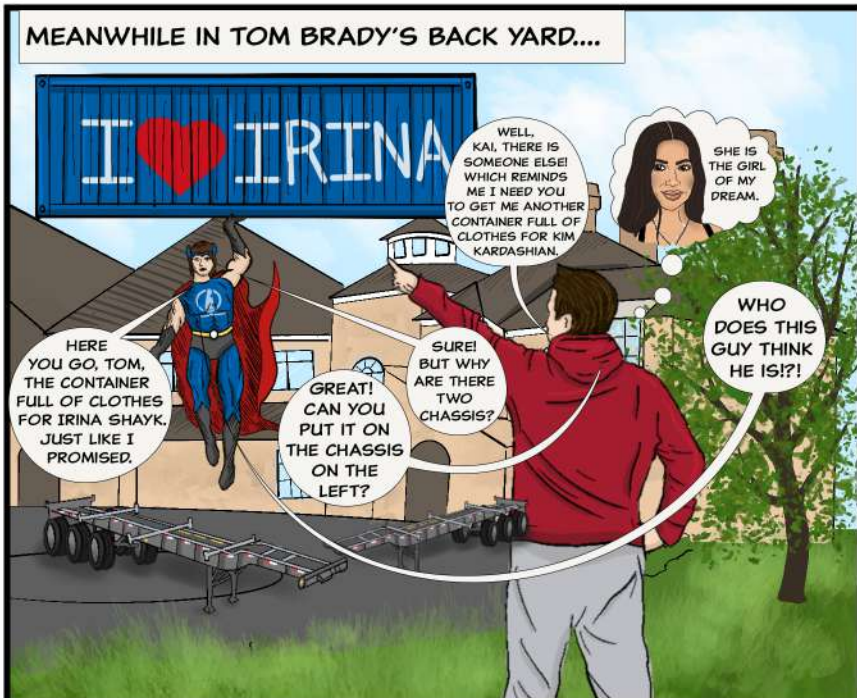
EVERYONE THINKS I AM ANGRY AT HIM FOR LEAVING US AND GOING TO TAMPA BAY. I AM NOT. I HAD TO LET HIM GO BECAUSE OF WHAT HE SAW IN NEW JERSEY. HE KNOWS TOO MUCH!



GOTTA GO TO JERSEY TO MAKE MY PLAN TO DESTROY THE SUPPLY CHAIN AND TOM BRADY.



LOOK AT ALL THIS TRAFFIC! THIS MIGHT BE A WHILE. MIGHT AS WELL PAY THE BOSS A VISIT WHILE I AM THERE.



MEANWHILE IN TOM BRADY'S BACK YARD...

I ♥ IRINA

WELL, KAI, THERE IS SOMEONE ELSE WHICH REMINDS ME I NEED YOU TO GET ME ANOTHER CONTAINER FULL OF CLOTHES FOR KIM KARDASHIAN.

SHE IS THE GIRL OF MY DREAM.

HERE YOU GO, TOM. THE CONTAINER FULL OF CLOTHES FOR IRINA SHAYK. JUST LIKE I PROMISED.

GREAT! CAN YOU PUT IT ON THE CHASSIS ON THE LEFT?

SURE! BUT WHY ARE THERE TWO CHASSIS?

WHO DOES THIS GUY THINK HE IS!?!?



JERSEY! RIGHT OFF THE TURNPIKE. YOU CAN'T MISS IT.

I GUESS I AM GOING TO NEW JERSEY TO SEE WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT.

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT POWER?

TOM ... TOM BRADY! JUST SO YOU KNOW, KAI, IN ADDITION TO BEING THE GREATEST QUARTERBACK EVER, I ALSO READ MINDS!

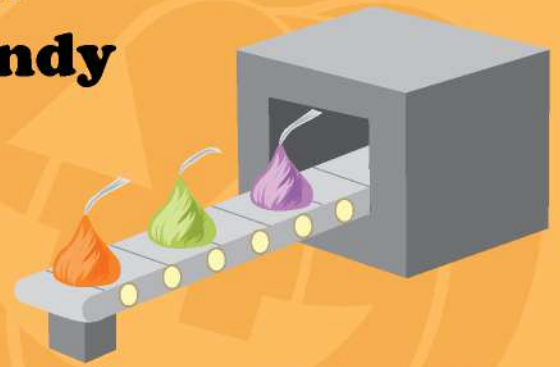
FIRST GET THE OTHER CONTAINER FOR KIM.

FINE! THE THINGS I DO TO SAVE THE SUPPLY CHAIN!

Fun Facts About Halloween Candy



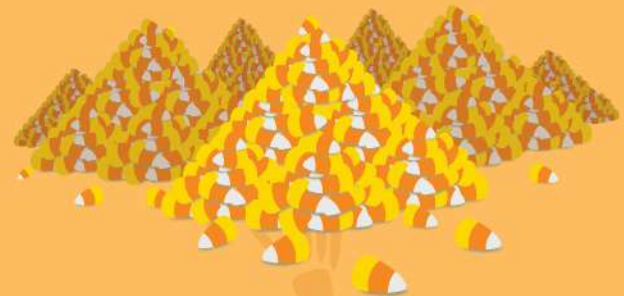
Candy corn is the most popular Halloween candy.



Hershey begins producing its holiday-specific candy up to six months in advance for Halloween.



Children would have to play for two days straight to burn off all the calories in the average amount of Halloween candy they receive.



Nine-billion pieces of candy corn are produced each year



Americans buy 90 million pounds of chocolate during the week of Halloween



More than 160 million Americans, about half the total population, are going to buy candy for Halloween this year



Americans are predicted to spend \$2.6 billion on Halloween candy.



If candy corn kernels sold during Halloween were laid out end to end, they would circle the earth 4.25 times.



ABOUT OEC GROUP

As an industry pioneer, OEC Group has become one of the world's leading logistics companies. We leverage in-house expertise, carrier partnerships, connections with ports and transportation hubs, and our network of offices in North America, Europe, Asia, India, South America, Australia, and the Middle East, to provide freight transportation, logistics, information, customs and brokerage, insurance, and technical services to over 50,000 customers of various sizes and industries.

We are also highly sought after for the advice we give shippers on how to optimally manage their supply chains. The guidance we provide is based on data analytics, best practices, and decades of industry knowledge.

We believe that relationships matter and treat your cargo as our own. Our experts are always investing in efficient, cost-effective, and cutting-edge services to evolve with the ever-changing market, address the complexities of any client's supply chain, and consistently perform at the highest level for our customers.

Our business is making our logistics expertise, your competitive advantage.

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