

OEC NEWS

OUR EXPERTISE YOUR ADVANTAGE

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FOR THE CURRENT HEALTH SCARE

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LESSONS FROM THE PAST HELPED OEC PREPARE FOR THE CURRENT HEALTH SCARE



OEC Group's experience with the SARS epidemic in 2003 pushed the company to create more responsive procedures and strategies on how to deal with unplanned and potentially prolonged disruptions in trans-Pacific trade.



The SARS outbreak in Hong Kong and South China during 2003 deeply impacted China's production and trade, causing months of declines in retail spending in Hong Kong and cut China's GDP growth by nearly 20% in the second quarter of 2003. At the height of the outbreak, Asia Pacific travel fell 35% from pre-crisis levels. It took months for trade to recover and to understand and create an appropriate response for future pandemics.

When the 2003 outbreak occurred OEC Group drew on its past contingency planning experience and conducted an in-depth supply chain analysis to identify vulnerable areas. The analysis showed the company how shipments would be impacted in the supply chain, allowing OEC to create a back-up strategy to ensure that delays would be minimized.

This preparation helped during the recent Coronavirus outbreak because OEC knew that there would be a likelihood of quarantines, restrictions of movement, and work stoppages and could ascertain how these restrictions would affect clients. The company immediately began to pull on its experience with emergencies to advise tailored response plans for each client based on their individual needs, helping them cope with their situations and tackle immediate problems. One element of OEC's contingency plan was to mobilize its workforce to operate remotely in order to provide essential services, which remained uninterrupted.

"OEC was very proactive in following our customers throughout the world, providing true global services and looking for new sourcing opportunities to overcome current congestion to service interruptions in the Far East," says Frank Costa, VP of Sales here at OEC Group.

The company's ability to address issues with its contacts throughout the globe ensured that problems were minimized. OEC Group was easily able to help its clients seamlessly accomplish everything it reasonably could, which in most cases was more than enough. Additionally, the company is currently preparing strategies for its clients when everything begins to be fully operational, as they expect competition for available capacity to be fierce.

"OEC is fully focused on preparing for the upcoming space crunch," said Anthony Fullbrook, President of OEC Group. "We have anticipated this event and are ramping up efforts to make sure that we are ready to help every client with its freight needs once China is operating at full capacity."



SUPPLY CHAIN PLANNING

Here are some tips to help plan for possible disruptions in your supply chain:

1

Choose the Right Partners:

Partner with a logistics expert who continuously anticipates and is always prepared for the unpredictable. This kind of relationship is critical to keeping your cargo safe and in motion. It will also give you the one thing everyone craves: peace of mind.



2

Make a Contingency Strategy:

Always have a back-up plan as you never know what unforeseen event can impact your business. The most effective way to do this is to analyze your business and identify the areas where disruptions can potentially occur and then begin the process to strengthen them.




3

Anticipate the Inevitable Surge:

If an unforeseen event occurs, most will want to make back what they lost. As a result, it is always a good idea to plan for a significant increase in trade, more limited carrier capacity, and higher than expected fuel surcharges. The use of Flexitanks and technology, to bulk liquid importers.



Leap Year Fun Facts



There are only about five million "leaplings" in the whole world

There is a 1 in 1,461 chance of having February 29 for a birthday

On non-leap years "leaplings" in Hong Kong legally celebrate their "birthday" on March 1, while in New Zealand it is February 28



March 1st



February 28th

Bachelors beware because Leap Day is a common day for women to propose to men for their hand in marriage

In the US, there are only

187,000 "leaplings"



According to Western astrology, those born on a Leap Day are born with special powers and extra good luck

VS.



According to Chinese astrology, those born on Leap Day are unruly, difficult to raise, and unlucky

Being born on Leap Day is rarer than being born with 11 fingers and toes



Source:

-- <https://www.rd.com/culture/february-29th-leap-year-facts/>

-- <https://www.worldtimeserv.com/learn/10-facts-about-leap-day/>

-- <https://www.livethejourney.co.za/blog/20-fun-facts-about-leap-years/>



ABOUT OEC GROUP

At OEC Group, we have demonstrated our commitment to customer service in trans-Pacific trade for more than 35 years. Founded in 1981, OEC Group had a vision to provide comprehensive logistics services to clients. Today OEC Group serves destinations throughout the world and has grown into one of the leading logistics providers in North America. With over fifty offices worldwide, we take pride in being close to your cargo at all times.

OEC Group is monitoring and adapting to the changing market. We are well positioned to make continuous improvements to your supply chain using the fastest, most efficient and cost-effective services available. We work tirelessly to stay on top of the ever-changing logistics industry with the goal of delivering the most current information and services to you, our customer.

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