



Dear Sir, Madam,

#### **POLYTRA receives 'Outstanding Foreign Enterprises Award'**

Polytra International Logistics nv, fully owned by Polytra nv, has received the 'Outstanding Foreign Enterprises Award' at the China (Shenzhen) International Logistics Fair. The event held recently at the CILF in Shenzhen was organized by the Union of China City Logistics Associations. Our outstanding IT-capabilities in combination with our personal service offered for our air freight, sea freight, customs, European distribution and warehousing concepts convinced the jury to award Polytra this price. More information : [rzhang@polytra.be](mailto:rzhang@polytra.be)

**Next FAIR : 29-31st of January 2009 : 'Mission of the Golden Commercial Triangle of India'** visits in Ahmedabad, Mumbai and Pune will be organized. For more information : [mkloosterman@polytra.be](mailto:mkloosterman@polytra.be)

#### **ASIA market remains under heavy pressure**

Shipping lines announced the lay-up of ships, predominantly in Asia, on its Asia-Europe and transpacific routes. Freight rates remain under severe pressure and rates do not cover costs. Rate improvements are considered imperative for the industry to create a sustainable environment. Shipping lines are definitely prepared to lay up more ships in the face of the shrinking market. Schedule changes, vessel sharing agreements, slow steaming and consolidation of services will be employed to reduce capacity even further. More information : [gdewilde@polytra.be](mailto:gdewilde@polytra.be)

#### **Chinese Customs 24 Hour Manifest Rule**

A new regulation will come into effect as from the 1st of January 2009 whereby all cargo bound for China will be subject to a 24 hours advance manifest rule in accordance with Chinese Customs ruling number 172. Hong Kong is excluded from this ruling but cargo for China hinterland via Hong Kong is included.

The rule requires that carriers of shipments to China must submit manifest details to Chinese Customs **24 hours before vessel ETA (estimated time of arrival) at the port of loading**. Chinese Customs will screen manifest data received and advise the carrier whether or not the cargo can be allowed into China. Only if Customs response is affirmative, cargo will be accepted for loading. If the manifest filing is rejected by Chinese Customs under no circumstances will the carrier be allowed to load cargo.

There are at present two levels of data filing with primary items to be declared latest 24 hours before vessel commences loading and secondary items to be declared before vessel arrival. This latter declaration can still result in a "Do not discharge" message in certain circumstances. It is likely that much of the secondary data requirement will become a primary requirement before the go-live date.

This new regulation will impact present handling of documentation by both carriers and customers on all cargoes bound for China. To meet the requirements of this rule exporters/ customers will be asked to provide shipping instructions / manifest details well in advance to allow the line to meet the 24hrs advance manifest requirement.

#### **The most important of the changes are:**

- i) Package description and other means of identification within the container.
- ii) Both master and NVO house bills of lading to be declared but party responsible for the house bill of lading

declaration is not yet clear.

iii) **HS codes will be compulsory** for all cargoes and six digits must be stated.

More information : [gdewilde@polytra.be](mailto:gdewilde@polytra.be)

Best regards,

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### **Holiday Notification**

Please notice our offices in Belgium will be closed on December 25th (Christmas Day) and January 1st (New Year's Day). We will resume work on respectively December 26th and January 2nd.

### **Fuel**

Fuel surcharges for truckings ex Antwerp/Zeebruges/Rotterdam will remain at 12%.

### **BAF/CAF**

Please visit our website to view the latest surcharges and THC : [www.polytra.be](http://www.polytra.be)

### **Others**

Other surcharges such as, but not limited to, ISPS, LSF, PSS, VPS, NPC, SUZ will be charged as per outlay in our tariff quotes.

### **E-POLYTRA**

Trace your orders from ASIA (air and sea) on [www.polytra.be](http://www.polytra.be) -> E-POLYTRA

### **FAST QUOTES**

Via [www.poytra.be](http://www.poytra.be) you can now send all rate inquiries to [fastquotes@polytra.be](mailto:fastquotes@polytra.be). We guarantee to return you an offer for air or sea freight within the shortest delay.

*If you do not wish to receive this newsletter any longer, please revert this mail mentioning "UNSUSCRIBE" in the subject line.*

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