

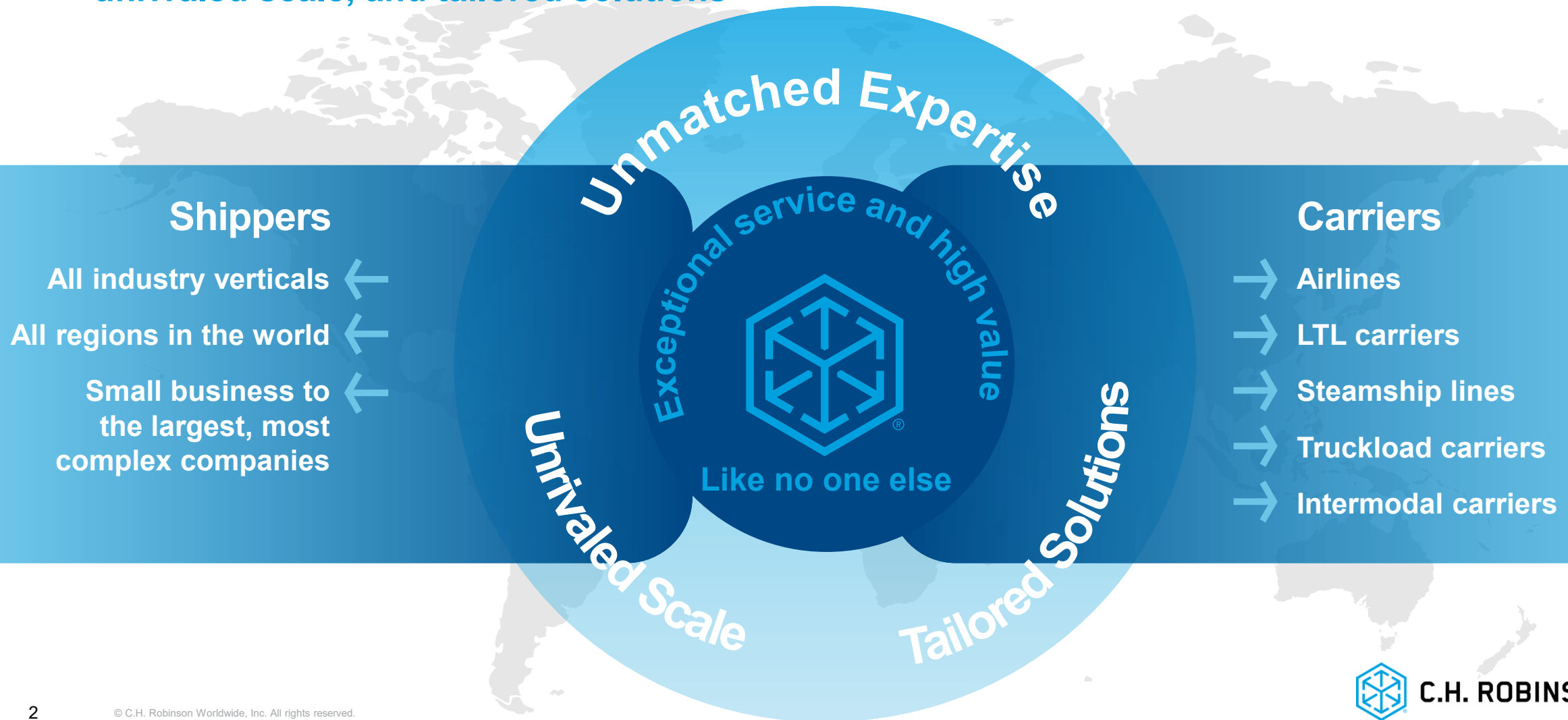
SEPTEMBER 2025 REPORT

C.H. Robinson
Edge™

→ Simplifying logistics—across the world

Overview

We solve challenges through our unmatched expertise, unrivaled scale, and tailored solutions



→ August 2025 Freight Market Update

- 1 Key Takeaways
- 2 Truckload
- 3 Ocean Freight
- 4 Air Freight
- 5 LTL Shipping
- 6 Trade Policy



→ Key Takeaways

High-level insights at a glance

- U.S. spot market cost/mile forecasts remain the same
 - Dry Van:
 - +2% year over year growth for 2025
 - +2% year over year growth for 2026
 - Refrigerated Van:
 - -1% year over year change for 2025
 - +2% year over year growth for 2026
- Shippers can capitalize on LTL carriers' focus on cost control and service accuracy
- Global ocean freight shows mixed conditions – congestion improvements in some regions offset by service cuts and port constraints
- Global air cargo faces regional capacity-demand imbalances driving booking delays and rate volatility
- U.S. federal court rules many recent tariffs illegal, but enforcement of ruling is delayed
- U.S. pauses truck driver visas, but doesn't extend to B1 visas for Mexico drivers



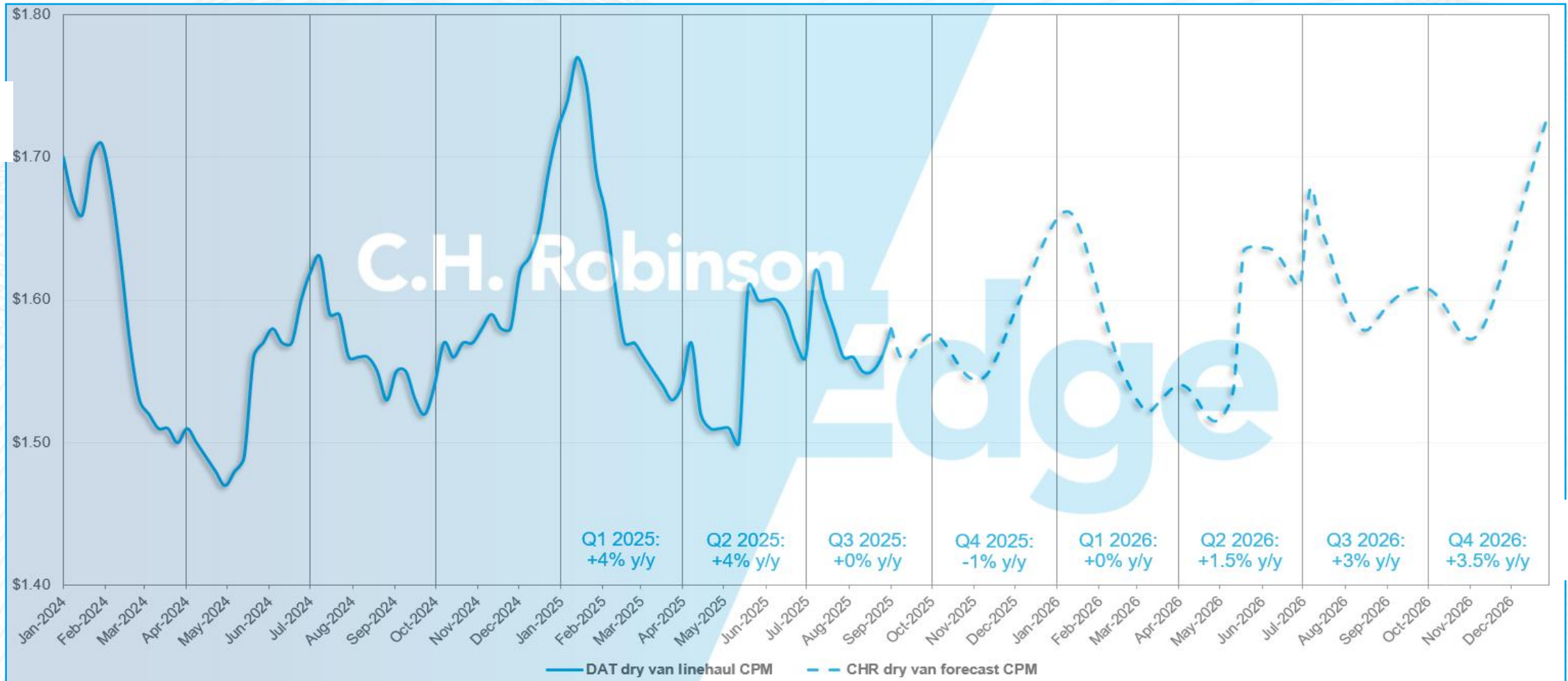
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Truckload

→ U.S. Spot Market Forecast | Dry Van

Truckload

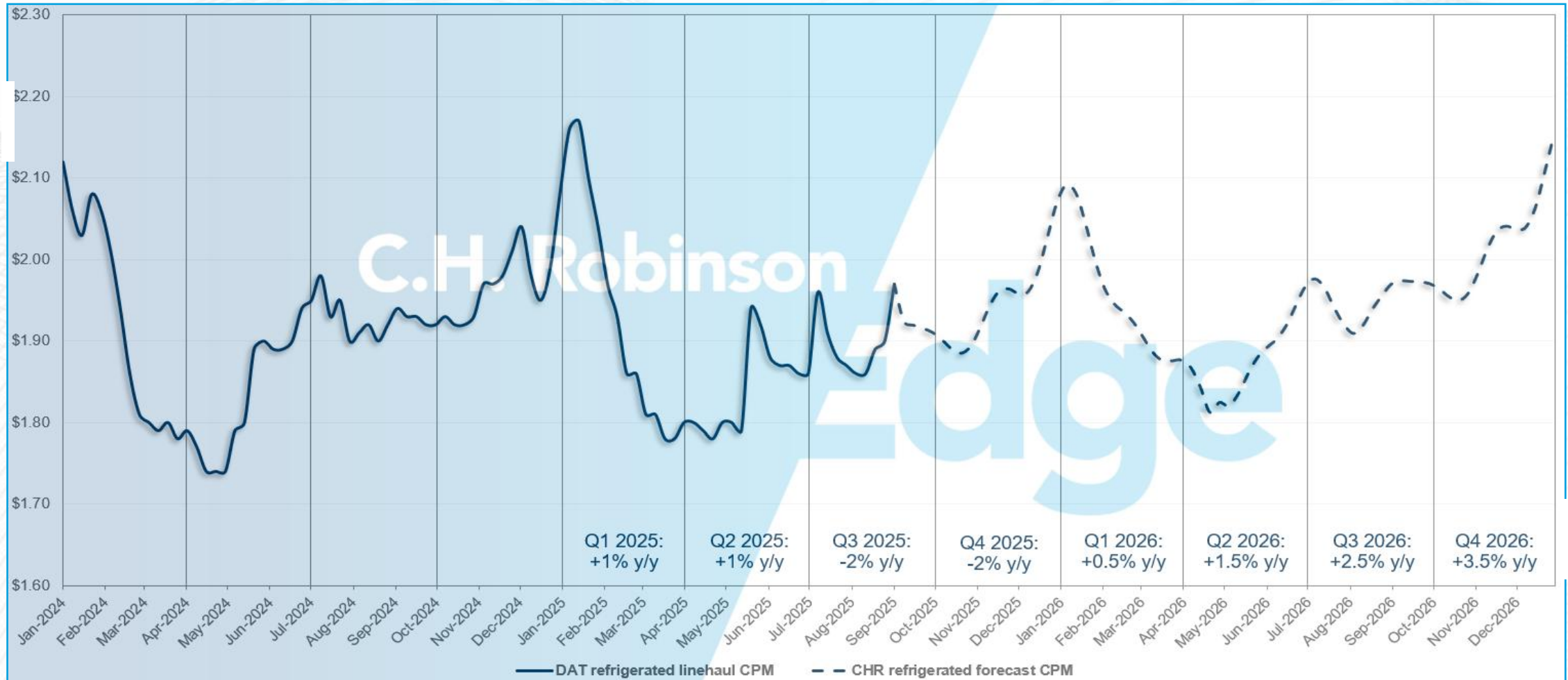
2025 +1.5% linehaul cost/mile increase y/y, 2026 +2% increase y/y



→ U.S. Spot Market Forecast | Temperature Controlled

Truckload

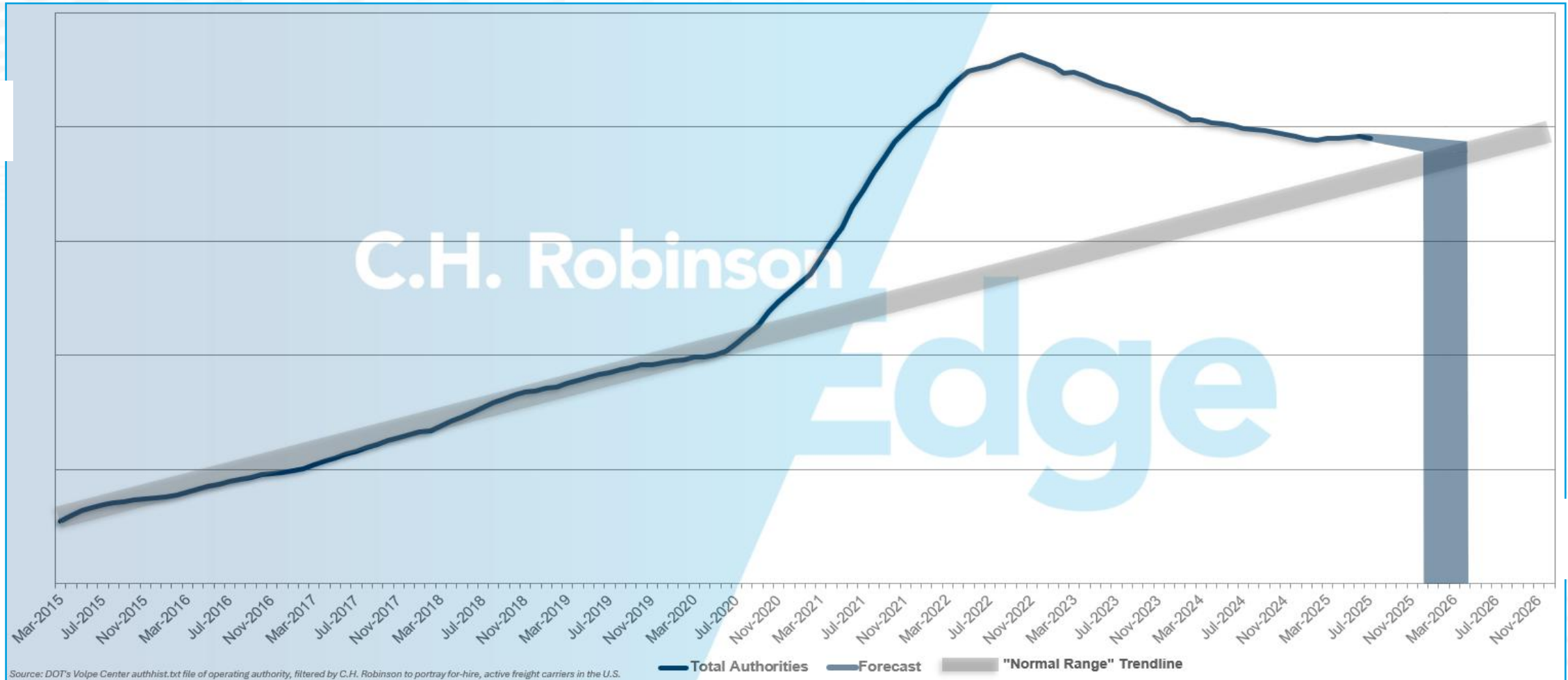
2025 -1% linehaul cost/mile increase y/y, 2026 +2% increase y/y



→ U.S. For-Hire Capacity Forecast

Truckload

Carrier authorities expected to be in line with historical trends in early 2026

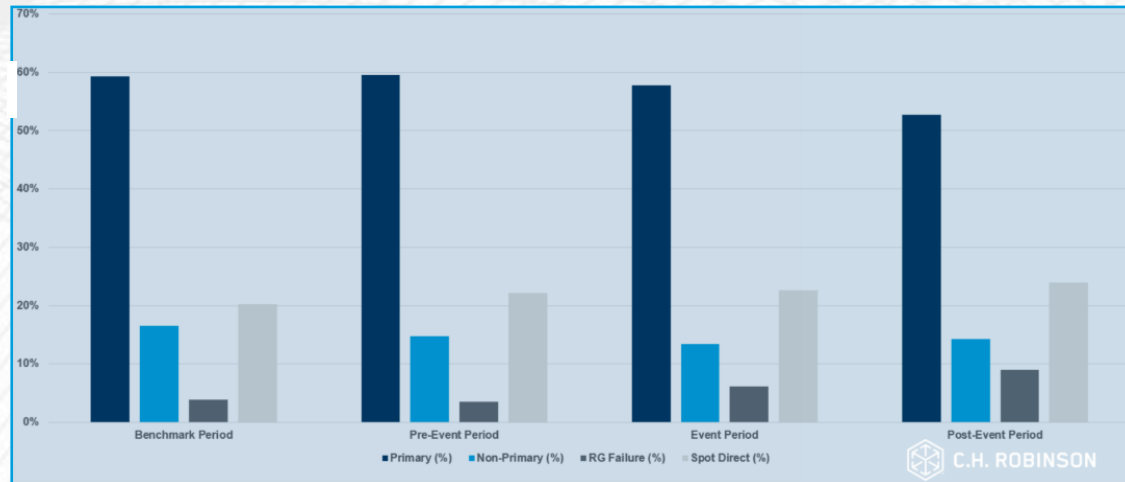


→ Hurricane Impact of Freight Market

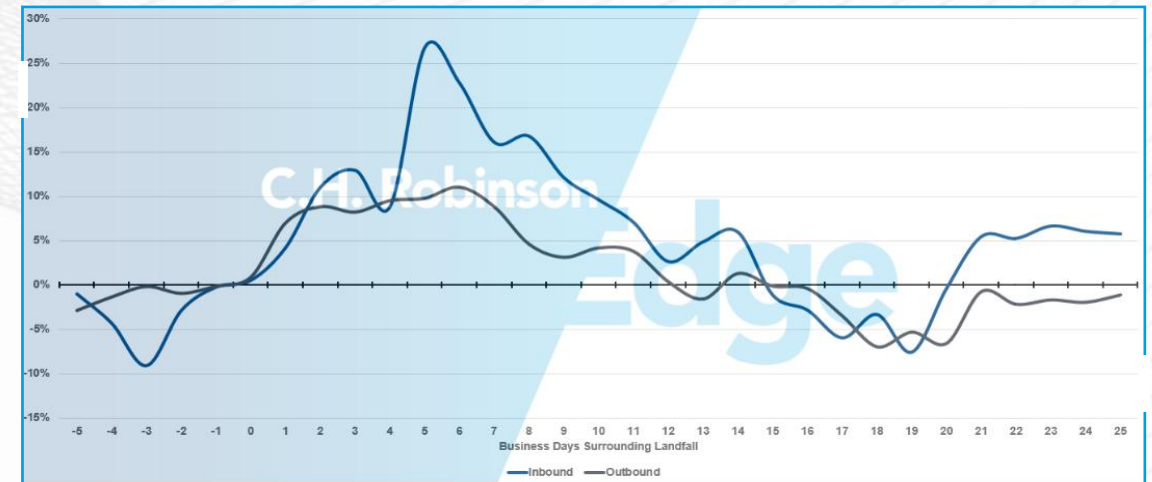
Truckload

Transactional market is impacted the most, but contractual freight is not exempt

Hurricane Harvey impact on high volume contractual freight



Average cost impact of spot rates from several years of major hurricanes





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Ocean Freight

→ Ocean Freight

Ocean

Regional variations define global ocean shipping landscape

Global Overview

- Global congestion eases slightly, transit times more predictable

Asia

- Early peak season disrupts traditional patterns
- Rate increases in Asia-U.S. lane have been announced, though the duration of these increases remains uncertain due to volume weakness

Europe

- Mediterranean Shipping Company's (MSC) withdrawal of the North Europe-U.S. East Coast (NEUSEC) service removes significant capacity on Transatlantic westbound routes
- Persistent congestion continues to impact vessel schedules and transit times

North America

- Full year 2025 import volumes expected to decrease 5.6%, after +3.6% growth in the first half of the year
- U.S. West Coast (USWC) capacity is expected to rise 7% in September compared to August levels
- U.S. East Coast (USEC) capacity is expected to decline 6% in September

Oceania

- Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) season began September 1, all imported cargo must comply with treatment and certification regulations

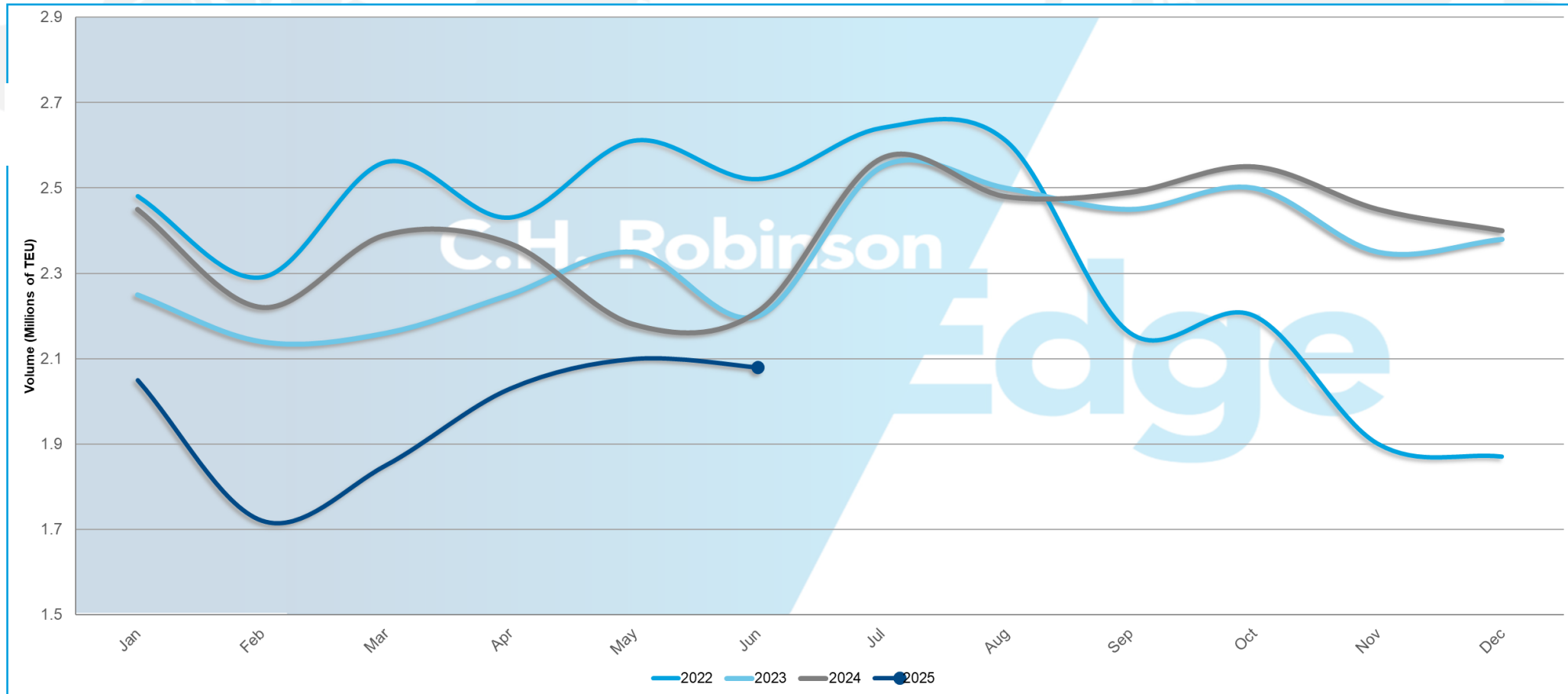
South America

- Brazilian export volumes affected by U.S. tariff implementation, particularly wood, tiles, and coffee sectors
- Declining Amazon River water levels are forcing carriers to implement Low Water Surcharges starting September

→ U.S. Container Import Volume (TEUs)

Ocean

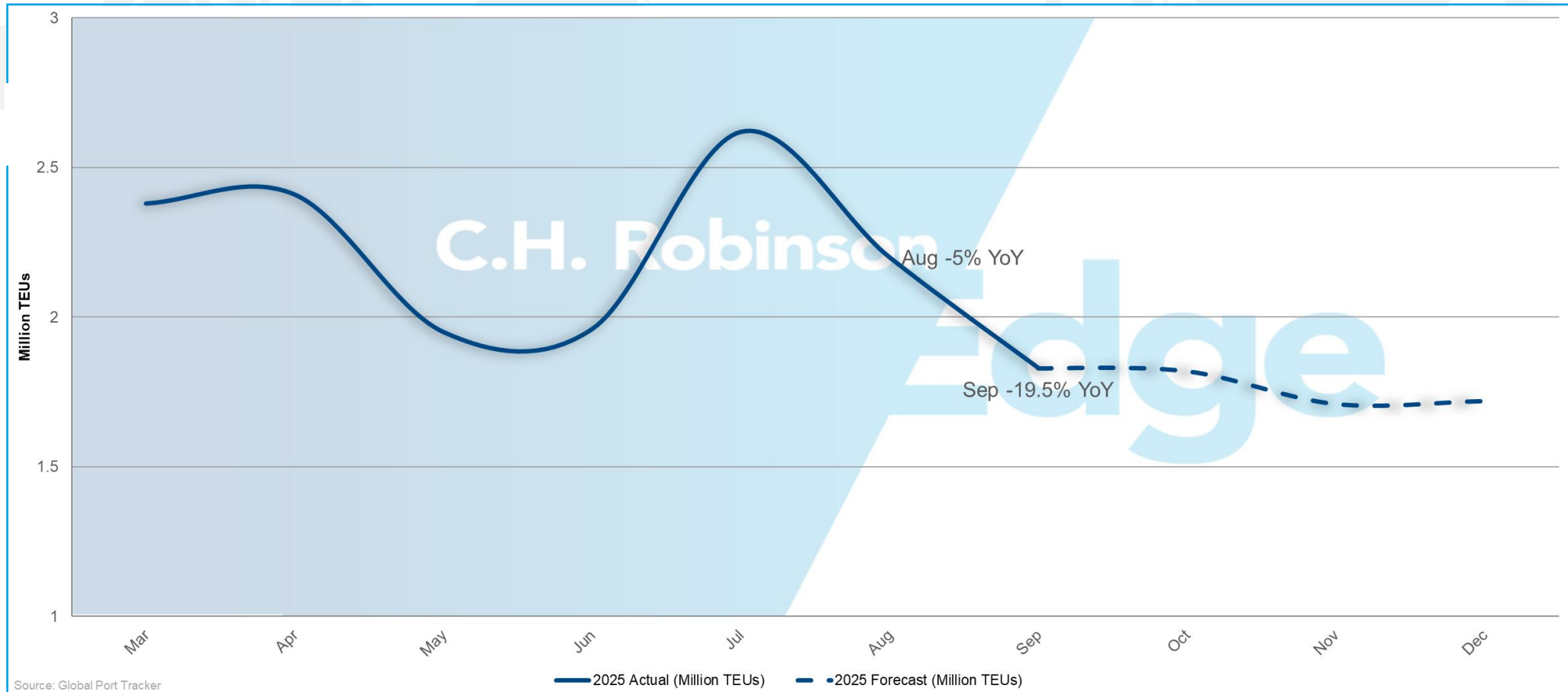
Import volumes underperforming compared to recent years



→ U.S. Import Volumes Forecast

Ocean

Import volumes are expected to decline the remainder of 2025





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Air Freight

→ Air Freight

Air

Global air cargo faces uneven demand and capacity constraints

Global Overview

- Air cargo demand is uneven, with some regions facing capacity constraints while others see temporary relief
- Moderate rate increases are observed, but volatility remains due to demand uncertainty and operational adjustments

Asia

- Tariff truce with the U.S. provides short-term stability, but overall volumes remain below peak-season levels
- Taiwan faces extreme capacity constraints due to AI and semiconductor demand, leading to 2-3 week lead times and premium pricing

Europe

- Summer flight schedules have restored capacity, creating stable booking options and competitive pricing
- Air freight demand is steady, but potential tariff or geopolitical disruptions could cause short-term rate spikes

North America

- Export capacity to South America is tight, with 10-14 day lead times and bottlenecks at key hubs like Miami
- Airlines are cautious with schedule increases, causing short-notice adjustments and potential spot-rate volatility

Oceania

- Capacity remains relatively stable, but peak-season planning is needed for time-sensitive or high-value shipments
- Spot market availability may tighten if unexpected surges occur, so early booking and flexible routing are recommended

South America

- Brazilian trade disruptions and U.S. tariffs are shifting cargo flows, reducing predictability for exporters and importers
- Asian ecommerce shipments to South America are driving additional air cargo demand, straining hub airports and increasing lead times

South Asia, Middle East, Africa (SAMA)

- Middle Eastern hubs (Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Doha) face congestion as ocean freight shifts to air, creating bottlenecks
- Shippers should plan early and expect premium pricing for urgent shipments to South America and Africa



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LTL Shipping

→ NMFTA Classification Changes

LTL

Accurate measurements are now essential for LTL shippers

- Market conditions remain stable
 - Stubbornly soft shipment volumes and tonnage continue
 - Shippers can benefit from LTL carriers focused on efficiency and cost control
 - Carriers investing in automation and sharpening key service metrics
 - Billing accuracy, claims reduction, and fewer missed pickups
- NMFC changes are now live
 - Effective July 19, 2025
 - Implementation has been smooth with minimal delays
 - Some carriers temporarily supporting both old and new standards
 - Dimensioners boost accuracy for LTL shipments, ultimately lowering costs





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Trade Policy & Customs

→ Navigating Tariff Impacts

Recent announcements from the U.S. government

- **More trade deals pending:** Negotiations continue with Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, and the EU; no India deal yet, but new 25% U.S. tariff (stacked to 50%) is in effect
- **Court ruling challenges tariffs:** Federal appeals court ruled the U.S. can't impose tariffs via national emergency; enforcement delayed until Oct. 14, 2025, with a Supreme Court appeal expected
- **Current tariff rates remain:** Reciprocal tariffs (10 - 41%) stay in place, plus fentanyl-related tariffs (China 20%, Canada 35%, Mexico 25%)
- **De minimis exemption ended:** As of August 29, 2025, low-value imports (<\$800) are no longer duty-free, impacting global ecommerce with new customs and duty collection requirements
- **China Section 301 exclusions extended:** 178 product exclusions from 2018 tariffs now extended through November 29, 2025
- Utilize C.H. Robinson's [U.S. Reciprocal Tariff Tracker](#) for the most up-to-date tariff deal announcements
- The C.H. Robinson [Tariff Timeline](#) tracks key changes as they unfold, making it easier to grasp the big picture at a glance

Thank you

For more content, reach out to a C.H. Robinson account manager

