



# Notice to Shippers

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Date:  
**23/10/2019**

Subject:  
**EUROPE – SOUTHERN AFRICA TRADE  
SAECS SERVICE – DELAYS AND OPERATION CHALLENGES IN SOUTH  
AFRICAN PORTS**

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Dear valued clients,

Further to our last circulated advisory on the situation in the South African ports we regrettably must inform you that the situation remains unchanged and very challenging for all port users.

In particular, the situation in Durban has substantially deteriorated with meanwhile berthing delays for arriving vessels of up to a week.

As a consequence, together with our SAECS partners we are having to implement operational contingencies such as operating the vessels at up to maximum (uneconomic and environmentally unfriendly speeds and port omissions to compensate for departure delays of up to one week from Cape Town the last South Africa port of loading.

Since the perilous situation in the South African ports is having serious effects on the countries importing and exporting industries the South African Government have been made aware by numerous representatives of the port users of the far-reaching implication for the South African economy and the President Cyril Ramaphosa and the Minister of Public Enterprises Mr Pravin Gordhan have become involved.

In a recent investigative South African television program report (<https://m-net.dstv.com/show/carte-blanche/videos/ports-in-peril/video>) on the situation in the South African ports the acting CEO was asked how long did she expect it will take before the situation overall improves. Her reply was at least one and half years!

Unfortunately, therefore we must live with the situation for some time still. We will however continue to do all possible to provide the schedule reliability and regularity. We will also endeavor to minimize the effects of all corrective measures we need to take to overcome the challenges that confront us in all South African ports.

Kind Regards,  
DAL Deutsche Afrika-Linien GmbH & Co. KG