

ΠΡΕΜΙΕΡΕ ΕΓΑ

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NEWSLETTER





MOON FESTIVAL

In China, the Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as the moon festival, symbolizes the family reunion on this day. Families will have dinner together and enjoy quality time with loved ones. There are many traditions during the moon festival, which includes sharing moon cakes, moon-gazing, and drinking cassia wine. Eating pomelo is also one of the traditions, because of its big and round shape, it is seen as the meaning of "reunion" in mandarin.

Children often like to peel pomelo and make it as a hat to have fun.

Moon festival is the second most important festival in Chinese culture after the Chinese new year. Traceback to the Tang Dynasty, people offered sacrifices and expressed their thoughts and feelings under the full, bright moon. Over time, it has become a holiday to celebrate. This year, the holiday in mainland China will be 8 days long, celebrated together with Chinese National Day from October first to eighth. Whereas, Taiwan and Hong Kong celebrated from October first to forth.

Something special in Taiwan is that people are crazy to have a barbeque on this day. This tradition originated from a competitive relationship between two soybean sauce companies. One year, they accidentally release their advertisement on the TV during the moon festival. Since then, Taiwanese people barbecue every year, and the ad was considered as one of the most successful promotions in history.

Robotics in logistics

From labor to automation

The robotic system has been widely applied to the warehouse and delivery center to increase operational efficiency and effectiveness. Logistics business and supply chain group using automation technologies to replace expensive, dangerous, and time-consuming activities, leading to a great increase in profitability and competitive advantages. The issue of robot application has been discussed for decades and brought the topic up again this year due to the coronavirus. Since the warehouse is a hermetic space, it is difficult for employees to maintain social distancing during working hours, therefore, the adoption of robots has become extremely important.



A recent report estimated that by the end of 2021, global sales of logistics robots will reach 22.4 billion U.S. dollars, and the annual shipment will reach 620,000 units. Noticeably, Japan has begun to pay attention to robots before the outbreak of pneumonia. They have been facing severe labor shortages for a long period. In order to reduce laborers' workload, the Japanese government plans to create a hybrid working environment that puts robots and employees to work together. Through coordinating with labor management systems, transportation systems, and warehouse, digital logistics ensures that orders, stocks, and shipments are checked properly. Since promoting automation has obtained huge feedback, the market scale is estimated to increase by 55 percent compared to the scale in 2019.

The logistics industry is an essential industry in the world, it couldn't stop for any reason. If any disasters happened, logistics should be able to deliver the necessary supplement. In our usual life, it lowers the internet inventory, satisfies customers, and responds to logistics matters dynamically. Therefore, digital logistics plays an extremely important part nowadays.

Logistics industry using automation technologies to increase efficiency, profitability and competitive advantages



PORT CONGESTION

THE ISSUE OF CARGO PRESSURE

Recently, freight rates around the world have increased simultaneously due to congestions and delays in the ports. In mid-September, multiple dominating ports including Los Angeles, Tokyo, Sydney, have all experienced this severe challenge.

Some of the congestion concerns have raised from operational problems, whereas other concerns have been attributed to the sharp increase in volume. In order to deal with these issues, carriers have surcharged congestion or are forced to depart earlier than original schedules. However, congestion, in reality, was way more complicated to solve, in addition to the increasing shipment led by the gradual recovery of the economies, adjustments of the labor force and government are also significant indicators to put an eye on, for example, ports in Durban is lacking labor, while Montreal is facing labor strike, and Australia is enacting the economic slowdown policy. Many shipments, therefore, are not be delivered on time, adding the unpredictable loss reserves in various industries.





The congestion at the port comes at a crucial time as many import businesses closely relate themselves to China's double 11 promotions and take a huge stake in Western countries' Christmas shopping season.

As the time approaches, the shipping demand is likely to increase significantly. There are thousands of ships operating in every port, congestion not only slows the movement of goods but also leads to higher costs and extra fees. Moreover, it has also exacerbated a shortage of container storage space at terminals. The report has shown that carriers in Brisbane and Melbourne sought to offload cargos elsewhere due to the heavy backlog. The actual time of import containers remain lingering on the port has kept rising to a few more days. The haulage problems featuring the fact that a load of containers is neither collected nor returned have seriously aggravating the severity of port congestion.



VACCINE STORAGE AND HANDLING

After half a year of vaccine research and development for COVID-19, the leading developers have come from the experimental stage to the distribution and delivery process. The storage of vaccines requires extremely low temperatures, bringing technical challenges for logistics. The vaccine delivery conditions could be noticeably complicated. Multiple phases are highly concerned, including transportation, which must be handled in compliance with international regulations, the temperature that must be strictly controlled, and delivered on time to ensure the validity of the vaccine. Furthermore, the delivery amount of vaccines is going to be very large. Based on the global population with one dose of vaccine per person, it would take up to 8,000 jumbo jets to successfully deliver a large number of vaccines. Under the relatively strict requirements of transportation, the cost derived from the service is expected to be high accordingly, and it will certainly influence the penetration rate in the future.



Not only does the vaccine of coronavirus face the preservation challenge, but also other general vaccines for major diseases. According to a report from South Korea on September 23, the South Korean government has announced an "emergency stop" of influenza vaccination. This accident occurred at the procedures of cold chain transportation on medical supplies. The logistics company which was responsible for the delivery has accidentally exposed a portion of the vaccine to room temperature, which clearly violates the guidelines of vaccine preservation. The company was asked to hit the break and made a further check on whether the vaccine has invalidated or not. Fortunately, the government intervened in time and stop a potential disaster for South Korea.

Effective procedures for storing and handling vaccines so that they can stay safe and remain validated play a very important role in protecting individuals and communities. There is no room for errors no matter whether it is an influenza vaccine or coronavirus vaccine. All of the vaccines need to be handled properly to ensure their viability and achieve the effect of ultimately enhancing the social welfare of the public.

What is the proper way to store vaccines?



SUSTAINABLE LOGISTICS

HOW DO WE ACHIEVE A BETTER ENVIRONMENT?

PREMIERE | logistics



According to the statistics of UNCTAD, the logistics industry has accounted for 7% of the global carbon emission, and “cargo freight” produced the highest amount among them. As the world becomes more developed, more people started to pay attention on greenhouse effect. How does the logistic industry affect the environment?

The logistics industry used to be a large part of supporting the economic circulation. However, as e-commerce grows rapidly, the industry demands new types of cargo transactions, such as “last mile” and 24/7 logistics services. The traditional transportations caused not only heavy pollution, but also road danger and vehicle congestions. People often overlook these challenges and did not realize how serious the issue is until the statistics came out. However, it is not too late to save our planet.

To achieve “sustainable logistics,” some governments have an explicit policy of reducing freight transport intensity. For example, the British government implemented the “Freight and Servicing Action Plan” in 2007. The main goal is to make London a safer, cleaner, and more efficient place to live. By 2041, 80% of London’s public transportation will substitute logistic transportation for trucking and personal delivery. Although it might inhibit the economic growth in the short run. In the long term, the program will increase supply chain performance.

After all, it comes down to cross-partnership working and the entire logistics industry to put more effort into more sustainable logistics networks to protect the environment.

CONTACT US

TEL: +86-21-32506989

FAX: +86-21-32506989

E-MAIL:

**MARKETING@SHA.PREMIERE-
LOGISTICS.COM**

**WEBSITE: WWW.PREMIERE-
LOGISTICS.COM**

ADDRESS:

**RM.603 & 304, BUILDING B, NO.28
XUANHUA RD. CHANGNING
DISTRICT, SHANGHAI, 200050, CHINA**

