Addressing Communications Gaps to Improve Efficiency
Hapag-Lloyd tells customers to avoid NY port due to congestion

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The Port of New York and New Jersey has been hit this summer by what one executive calls a “perfect storm” of labor shortages, computer glitches, and new trucking regulations.

The situation has gotten so bad that the German container shipping company Hapag-Lloyd suggested its customers route cargo through other ports.

“We are experiencing severe congestion throughout the port of New York,” Hapag-Lloyd told customers in a memorandum dated July 26.

“Both local and rail cargo are affected. In efforts to minimize commercial exposure to NY/NJ and restore our service to our customers, we strongly suggest rerouting cargo whenever possible,” the carrier said. It suggested shippers consider alternative ports such as Montreal, Halifax, Norfolk, Baltimore and Savannah.

“We continue to work diligently with all marine terminals, rail service providers, partner lines, port authority, however, we do not expect normal service to be restored until approximately middle of September 2013,” Hapag-Lloyd said.

John Nardi, president of the New York Shipping Association (NYSA), noted...
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- Unclear Motives
- Indecisive Actions
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