



Date: 10 March 2026

Market update: Impact of Trade Developments in the Middle East

Dear NTG Air & Ocean customers,

Airfreight update

Following our advisory last week, the situation in the Middle East continues to create operational challenges across the global airfreight network.

Air space restrictions and security concerns remain in place across parts of the region, and several carriers continue to reroute or suspend selected services. As a result, flight paths between Asia and Europe are being extended, while some traditional transfer hubs in the Middle East are operating with reduced efficiency.

These developments are further impacting key air cargo corridors, particularly Asia–Europe and Asia–Middle East. The ongoing rerouting of flights is increasing sector times, transport cost and reducing overall network efficiency, while disrupted transfer flows are creating congestion at several airports.

Freight rates on disrupted corridors are rising as space tightens and transit times extend. Some carriers have introduced war-risk surcharges and increased fuel surcharges, though overall market rates remain broadly stable. At the same time, longer routes and higher fuel burn may lead to additional operational surcharges should the situation continue.

The situation remains highly volatile, and further last-minute operational changes cannot be ruled out.

NTG Air & Ocean continues to work closely with our carrier partners to monitor developments and minimise disruption across our global network.

Please do not hesitate to contact your local NTG Air & Ocean office for any questions.

Best Regards,
NTG Air & Ocean