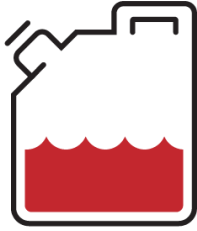


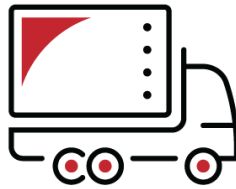


## Numbers at a Glance



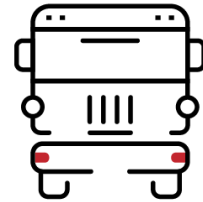
**\$3.71**

CURRENT  
Diesel Fuel Average



**+5.0%**

JAN 2026 UP FROM DEC 2025  
U.S. Truckload Spot Load Posts



**-1.5%**

JAN 2026 DOWN FROM DEC 2025  
U.S. Truckload Spot Truck Posts

[Data provided by DAT Trendlines](#)

## Top Domestic Stories

### Rise In Fraud & Freight Theft

The transportation industry continues to suffer from a plague of fraudsters and theft that is showing no sign of slowing down.

According to a recent article from the American Trucking Association, strategic cargo theft has **risen by nearly 1500% since 2021** costing the American economy an estimated **\$35 Billion dollars each year**. This worrying trend continues to stress shippers and transportation providers alike.

According to DAT here are some best practices shippers can adopt to help mitigate risk:

**Verify Suppliers Carefully** - Use direct phone confirmation for any changes to vendor info and conduct background checks to ensure legitimacy.



**Leverage Smart Tech** - Ensure staff are trained to spot phishing attempts, invoice scams, and other fraud schemes.

**Collaborate with Industry and Law Enforcement** - Share threat intel, align with industry best practices, and participate in joint fraud prevention initiatives.

If you are a Koch Logistics customer and have more questions on how to mitigate freight theft or fraud, please reach out to your sales representative for more information.

[Read the Article From the ATA Here](#)

[Read About DAT Best Practices Here](#)

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## FMCSA Effectively Bans Non-Domiciled CDLs



**On Wednesday, 2/11, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration issued a Final Rule regarding CDL eligibility for non-citizens.**

The rule titled, "Restoring Integrity to the Issuance of Non-Domiciled Drivers Licenses", officially takes effect 30 days from the date of this ruling. Essentially, this ruling has significantly narrowed the immigrant statuses allowed to hold a CDL in the United States.

This rule could effectively push out approximately 200,000 non-citizen drivers out of commercial driving work.

FMCSA Administrator Derek Barrs stated that the rule closes a "critical safety gap" that "allowed unqualified drivers with unknown driving histories to get behind the wheel of commercial vehicles. We are closing that gap today to ensure that only qualified, vetted drivers are operating on our nation's roadways. If we cannot verify your safe driving history, you cannot hold a CDL in this country."

This article also highlights a survey conducted by *Overdrive* in December where 70% of individuals said this ruling would likely boost rates.

[Read the Full Story Here](#)

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## Warehousing Expected to Rebound in 2026

**Warehousing has been stuck in limbo over the last few years due to multiple external factors but seems poised for strong growth in 2026.**

Due to uncertainty surrounding trade policy changes and high financing costs, warehousing has been in a rut but recent indicators show light at the end of the tunnel.

The food and beverage industry is seeing dynamic growth driven by technology and increased demand for groceries from online shoppers. Grocers are looking to increase their warehousing footprint to accommodate



this growing need. Additionally due to the whirlwind of trade policy changes, the warehousing industry is seeing an increased demand for Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZs) as a way to mitigate cost increases. These zones allow companies to import goods, store or manufacture them, and defer or avoid tariffs until the goods enter the domestic market.

There are still challenges ahead, in particular competition for commercial real-estate from data centers, and potential pushback from the "Not in My Backyard" (NIMBY) movement where towns and residents pushback against the encroachment of warehousing and datacenters. Despite these challenges, the outlook is positive for warehousing for the first time in a long time.

[Read the Full Story Here](#)

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## Winter Storm Fallout



**Winter Storm Fern swept through approximately 35 states towards the end of January causing widespread delays.**

Many shippers across the U.S. are left reeling in the wake of one of the largest winter storms in recent memory. Here in Minnesota, it was business as usual. Our operations teams proactively prepared customers for potential delays and provided solutions to keep freight moving. The creative folks on the Retail Services side kept projects on track across the country by moving up critical deliveries of project materials ahead of the impending storm preventing costly delays.

Roadways, airports, and railways were all but shut down, while widespread power outages created a ripple effect of shipping delays.

The aftermath of the storm could result in tightened capacity and increased rates for weeks to come. The American Logistics Aid Network (ALAN) is predicting that the impact could linger due to the widespread nature of the storm.

[Read About the Storm Here](#)

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## Top Maritime Stories

**U.S. Container Imports Continue Downward Trend**

## Recent data shows U.S. container imports ended 2025 in a four-month decline, likely to continue.

Inbound volumes in December dropped 6.4% from a year earlier to 1.9 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) after a 5.7% dip from the previous month. Industry experts point to tariffs as the primary cause for this slide.

The U.S. is now lagging behind in container growth rates compared to the rest of the world. Los Angeles, Houston, and New York all posted year-over-year declines in imports in December. As demand softens, spot container rates also continue to drop. Per Peter Sand, chief analyst at Xeneta, "The market is set to turn further in the favor of shippers rather than carriers with further softening rates."



[Read the Full Story Here](#)

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## Indian Tariffs Slashed



On February 2nd, Donald Trump announced that tariffs on India will be lowered to 18%, down from 25%.

The move comes in the wake of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's agreement to stop buying Russian oil. Trump has spent months pressing India to cut reliance on cheap Russian crude in an effort to help end the war in Ukraine. According to Trump, India has agreed to reduce their import taxes on American goods to zero and also purchase \$500 billion worth of American products.

[Read the Full Story Here](#)

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# Koch Team Updates

## Koch and Store Opening Solutions Unite at StorePoint

In previous years, Koch Logistics and SOS attended these events independently but now after Koch acquired SOS earlier this year, we attended the event on February 1st together.

Connecting Point Marketing Group hosts multiple events throughout the year, their StorePoint event offers a unique opportunity to meet with retailers and supplier partners in the FF&E space. The Koch and SOS teams joined forces to engage with and present our expanded services to over thirty different executives across multiple board room meetings throughout the event.



Thank you Connecting Point Marketing Group for putting  
on another great event!

[Check Out StorePoint on LinkedIn](#)

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