

New Index shows European road freight rates sliding

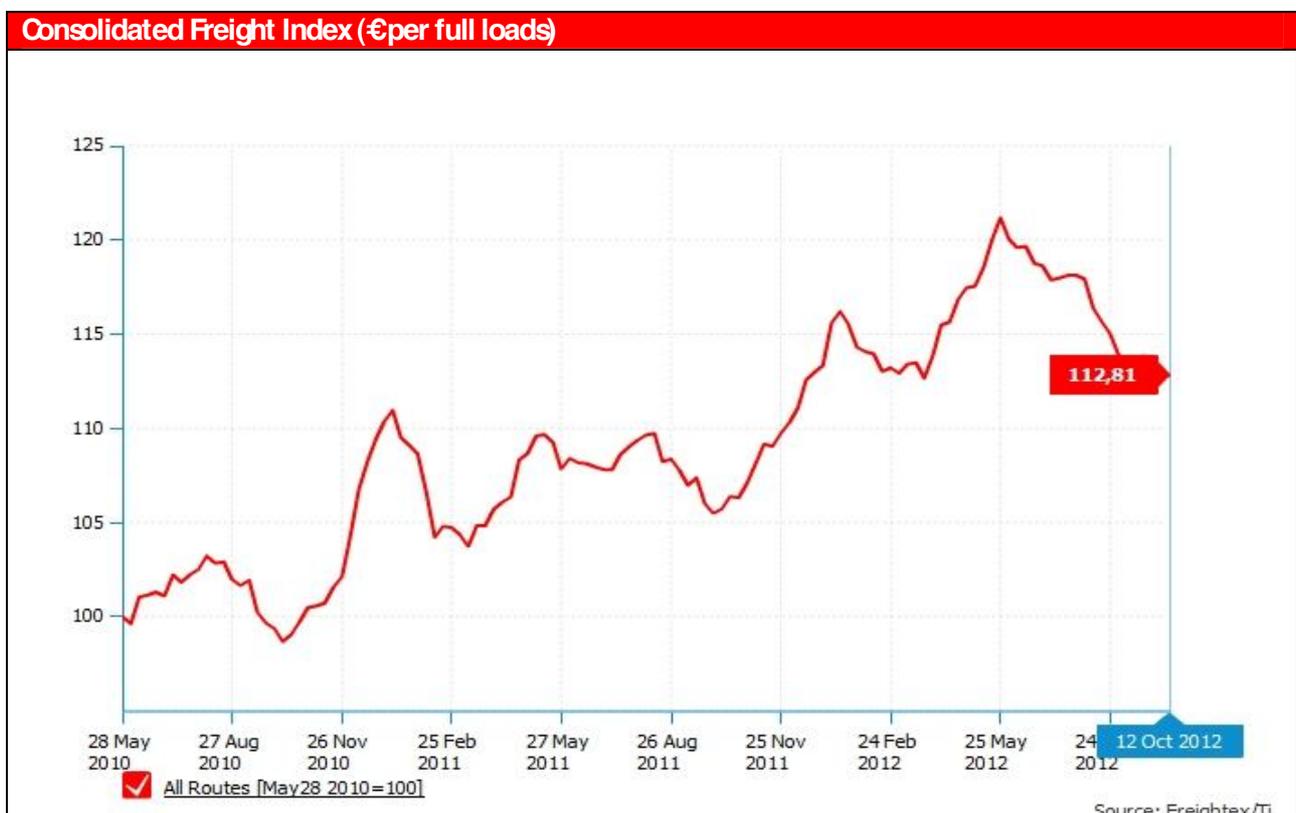
After rising by 20% in two years, road freight rates on key international routes in Western Europe have fallen steadily for the past five months.

According to the new international road freight index compiled by Transport Intelligence using data provided by European freight service provider, Freightex, road freight rates have fallen 7% in the past five months from their peak.

By the end of May 2012, the Index (based on actual transactions settled in euros) was 21.2% higher than in May 2010, the starting point for the index. After this date, however, rates have fallen consistently.

The rise in prices up to May 2012 had several factors behind it. Firstly, the market was undergoing a substantial 'bounce-back' from the crisis point of 2009, when prices crashed. Quantifying the effect of this is difficult as rather than settle back to equilibrium, prices have remained volatile. This volatility appears to be a structural issue, both in terms of demand and supply in the market.

It would seem likely that the fall in prices over the past few months has been driven by falling demand, whilst capacity has yet to re-adjust.



John Manners-Bell, CEO of Transport Intelligence, commented, "Visibility of international road freight rates in Europe has historically been very poor. At this time of economic volatility

and uncertainty, we are delighted to be able to partner with Freightex to provide the industry with an increased level of insight into the market.”

Tim Phillips, CEO of Freightex added, “Transparency of rates allows consignors to easily check if they are getting the appropriate price for the services they require, or to support and analyse the costs of entering new markets. Carriers can also use it to discuss increases in rates based on real market knowledge.”

More information

The Freightex European Road Freight Rate Index, a free quarterly analysis of European road freight rates provided by Transport Intelligence and Freightex, can be [downloaded here](#).

Individual indices of international road freight rates by European country pair traffic lanes can be accessed on the Ti Dashboard. [Click here for further details](#).

About Freightex

Freightex is a logistics management company dedicated to finding the most efficient road transport solutions for its customers. It is particularly active in the UK, Benelux, France, Spain and Germany with transactions completed across its European network every day between over 1500 customers and carriers.

Contact Tim Phillips at Tim.Phillips@freightex.com.

About Transport Intelligence

Transport Intelligence (Ti) is one of the world’s leading providers of expert research and analysis dedicated to the global logistics industry. Utilising the expertise of professionals with many years of experience in the mail, express and logistics industry, Ti has developed a range of market leading web-based products, reports, profiles and services used by all the world’s leading logistics suppliers, consultancies and banks as well as many users of logistics services.

Contact John Manners-Bell at jmannersbell@transportintelligence.com.

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