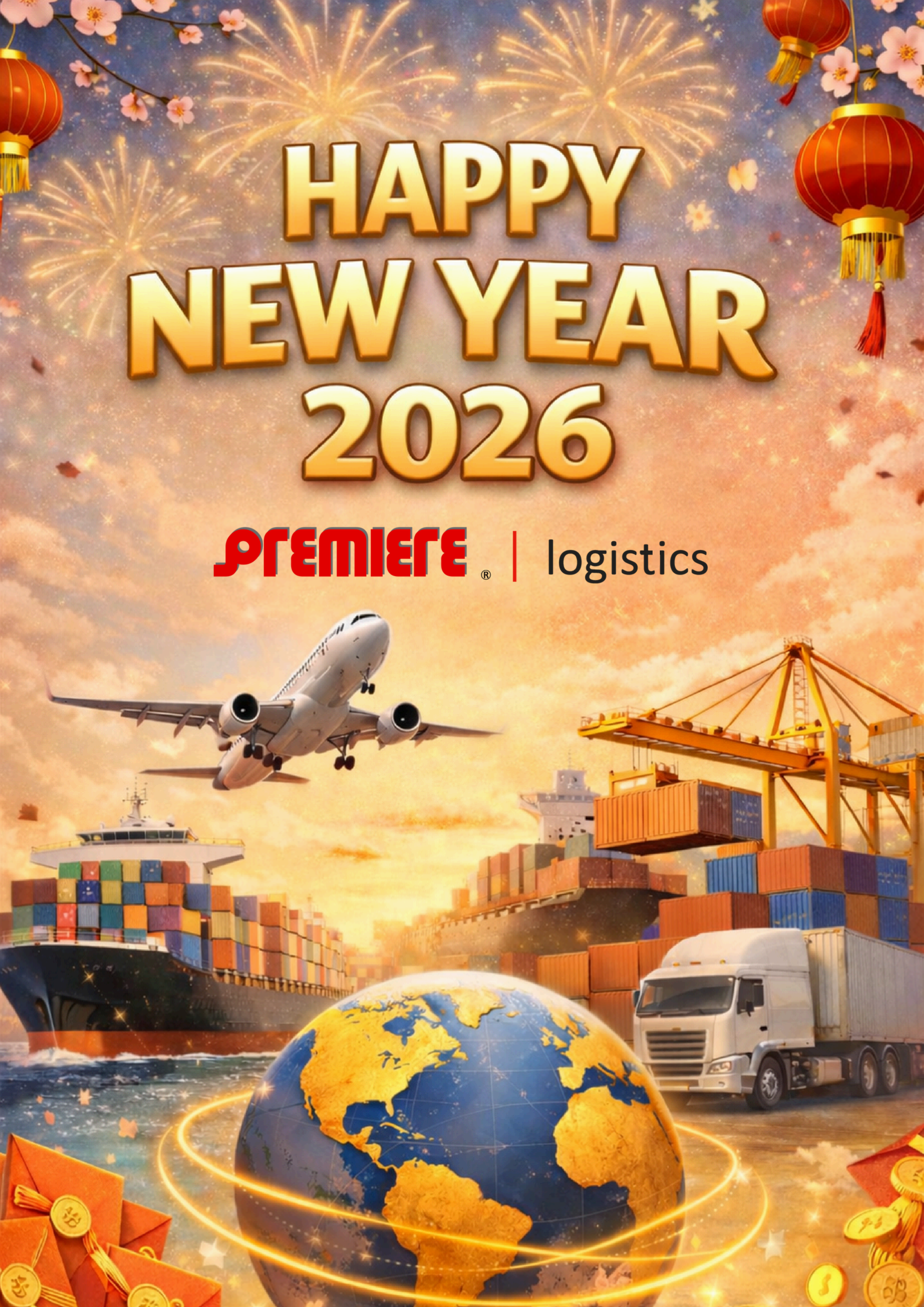
HAPPY
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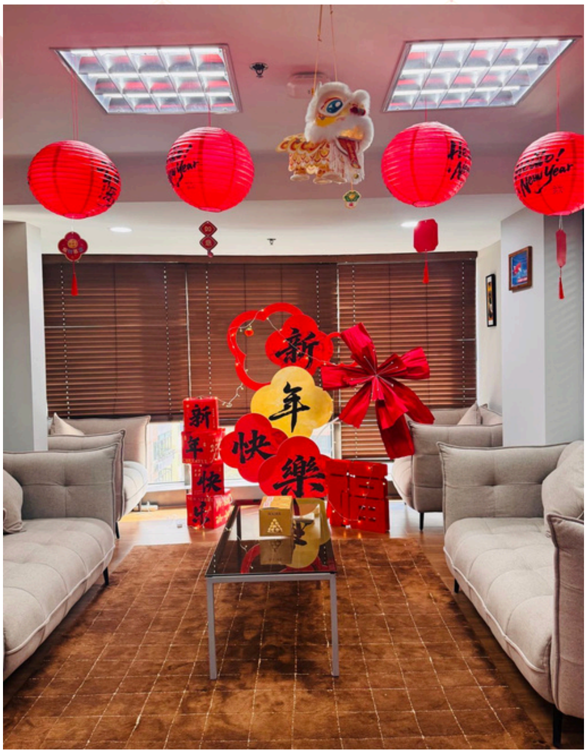
Premiere Group Hosts Spring Festival Decorations and Lucky Draw Event



As the Lunar New Year approached, Premiere Group offices worldwide were adorned with festive decorations. At the Shanghai headquarters, vibrant red lanterns, elegant spring couplets, and intricate paper-cuttings created a warm and celebratory atmosphere. Elaborate decorative knots hung on both sides of the main entrance, while corridors and common areas were graced with seasonal flowers and ornaments symbolizing good fortune—each element conveying wishes of warmth, reunion, and prosperity.

These thoughtful arrangements not only beautified the workspace but also made every colleague feel the warmth of home and the joy of the season.

To express gratitude for the team's dedication throughout the year, Premiere Group hosted a "Lucky Draw" event on January 22nd, bringing colleagues together in a spirit of celebration and appreciation. The event was open to all branches, with attractive prizes including cash red envelopes, gift cards, and practical home appliances, allowing everyone to share in the festive cheer. The atmosphere was lively and engaging, combining in-person and online participation to ensure every team member could join.

Happy Chinese New Year 2026

Led by the group's leadership, the draw unfolded in several rounds of excitement. Eleven from the Shanghai headquarters was delighted to receive the grand annual prize, while colleagues from Hong Kong, Taipei, Guangzhou, and other locations also celebrated their wins online.Each announcement was met with cheers and applause from both on-site and remote participants. Interactive segments kept spirits high, blending laughter and well-wishes into a truly connected experience—embodying the idea that "even across distances, we celebrate as one."

More than just a festive gathering, this event reflected Premiere's "family culture," emphasizing care, inclusion, and shared joy. By blending traditional Lunar New Year elements with a modern, interactive format, the company reinforced its appreciation for every employee's contribution and strengthened the bonds within its global team. As we step into 2026, Premiere looks forward to continuing this journey together—building a warmer, brighter future side by side.

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Air Freight Rates Peak in December Then Slide Sharply as 2026 Begins

In a dynamic close to 2025, global air freight markets followed the traditional seasonality of rising to a peak and then retreating, with the Baltic Air Freight Index (BAI00) climbing steadily into December before a pronounced post-holiday drop. Rates rose through the second half of December on strong seasonal cargo demand, particularly on key east-west lanes such as Hong Kong to North America and Europe, before sliding sharply in the first week of January as volumes eased after peak season.

According to TAC Index data, the global BAI00 fell by roughly 14 % in the week to January 5, leaving rates about 11 % below last year's levels. The post-peak decline was most pronounced on Asia–U.S. routes, with spot pricing from Hong Kong to the U.S. East and West Coasts both retreating significantly.

Despite this seasonal correction, structural factors such as ongoing capacity constraints – particularly shortages of dedicated freighters and grounded aircraft pending safety checks – continue to support underlying rate levels. Market participants also noted resilient demand for high-value cargo, especially semiconductors out of Taiwan, which helped lessen the year-over-year downturn.

As global carriers and forwarders transition into 2026, the freight industry is watching closely whether broader economic trends and shifting trade patterns will temper or sustain early-year rate movements.

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Transpacific Ocean Rates Surge as 2026 Opens Amid Lunar New Year Demand

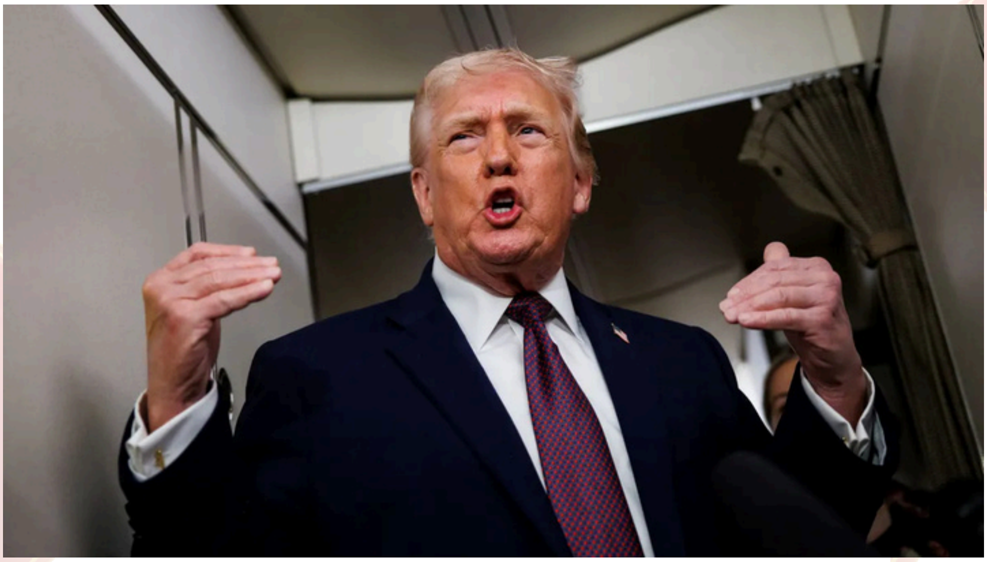
Transpacific ocean freight rates jumped strongly at the start of 2026, driven by robust demand ahead of the Lunar New Year and renewed carrier price initiatives. According to recent Freightos Baltic Index data, average spot rates from Asia to the U.S. West Coast climbed roughly 22 % week-over-week to around $2,600 per forty-foot equivalent unit (FEU), while Asia-to-East-Coast pricing rose about 12 %.

This spike contrasts sharply with broader 2025 trends of softer rates and volatility, where global ocean pricing saw periodic troughs driven by excess capacity and muted volume growth. Despite those pressures, the seasonal uptick underscores the importance of pre-holiday freight flows as shippers accelerate bookings to pre-position inventory and manage factory closures in Asia.

Industry analysts note that while short-term rate momentum looks firm, broader volume trends may remain subdued. Projections for 2026 currently point to year-over-year volume declines on core Transpacific trades, which, combined with expanding vessel capacity, could dampen longer-term pricing power.

Supply chain planners and carriers alike will be watching how capacity management strategies – including blank sailings and contract negotiations – evolve into Q1 as markets seek balance between demand signals and economic headwinds.

U.S. Targets Countries Trading With Iran With 25% Tariff, Raising Global Trade Uncertainty

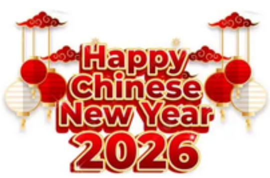


The U.S. government has announced a sweeping new trade policy that could ripple across global supply chains, declaring that any nation engaging in trade with Iran will face a 25% tariff on its trade with the United States. The announcement, made via a public statement without detailed legal documentation, represents a significant escalation in U.S. economic pressure on Tehran amid ongoing civil unrest in Iran.

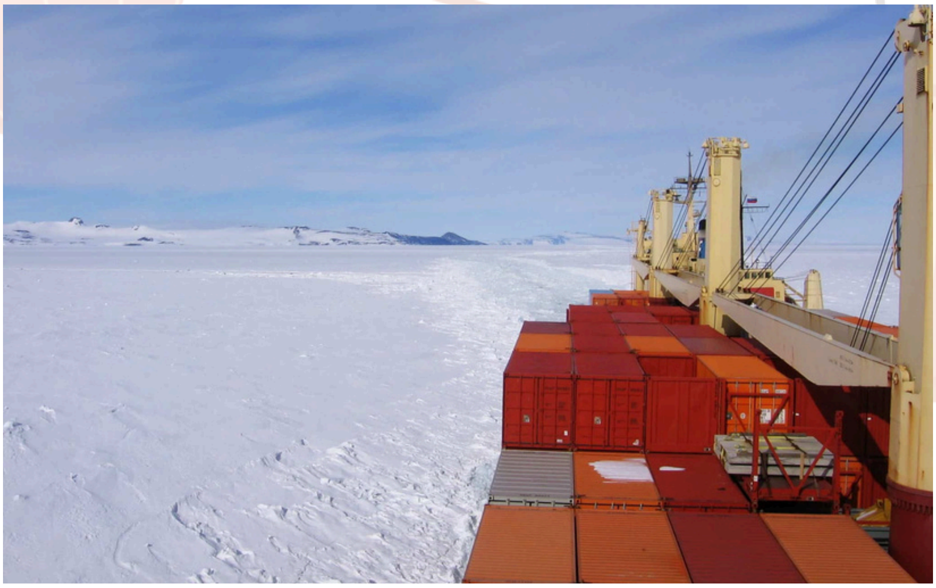
Under the policy, tariffs are levied on imports into the U.S. from countries that maintain commercial relations with Iran, even if those relationships are limited to certain sectors. Major trading partners such as China, India, the United Arab Emirates, and Turkey, all significant participants in Iran's import-export ecosystem, could face higher costs for access to the U.S. market if broadly applied.

The lack of clarity on implementation, including exemptions for humanitarian goods or definitions of what constitutes "doing business" with Iran, has left markets and trade professionals assessing potential impacts. Some analysts warn the policy could raise costs for U.S. importers, while others suggest it adds an additional layer of geopolitical risk to already tense U.S.–China and Middle East supply chain dynamics.

As trade partners evaluate their exposure, the new tariff measure underscores the intersection of geopolitics and commercial logistics, adding uncertainty to sourcing, routing, and tariff planning for global shippers and carriers heading into 2026.



European Port Disruptions and Winter Weather Drive Freight Volatility in Early 2026



Major European ports experienced operational disruptions in early 2026 due to severe snow and ice conditions, contributing to elevated freight rate volatility ahead of the Chinese New Year planning period. The weather-related strain, combined with carriers' strategic capacity management, has seen spot container rates on select India–Europe trade lanes climb roughly 50–60 %, reflecting tight space and scheduling pressures.

Container carriers have also announced a wave of blank sailings through late January and early February, representing about 5 % of planned departures on key services. These planned reductions, largely concentrated on the Transpacific eastbound and Asia–Europe strings, are being used tactically to support contract negotiations and cushion rate levels as carriers navigate post-holiday demand fluctuations.

The disruptions occur as the industry collectively balances normal seasonal patterns with atypical operational constraints. In contrast to typical post-December slowdowns, carriers have front-loaded capacity into late January, anticipating peak seasonal flows and negotiating annual contract terms.

Looking forward, analysts note that while weather impacts are likely temporary, the intersection of climatic disruption, strategic capacity use, and annual contractual dynamics could influence freight pricing and network planning well into the first quarter of 2026.

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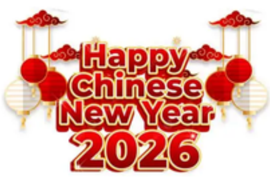
Lunar New Year 2026 Sparks Global Shipping Delays

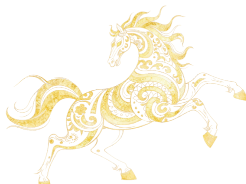
The 2026 Lunar New Year in China is expected to disrupt international supply chains as factories and ports reduce operations during the holiday. Global businesses are preparing for delays in shipments from China, a key hub for manufacturing and logistics.

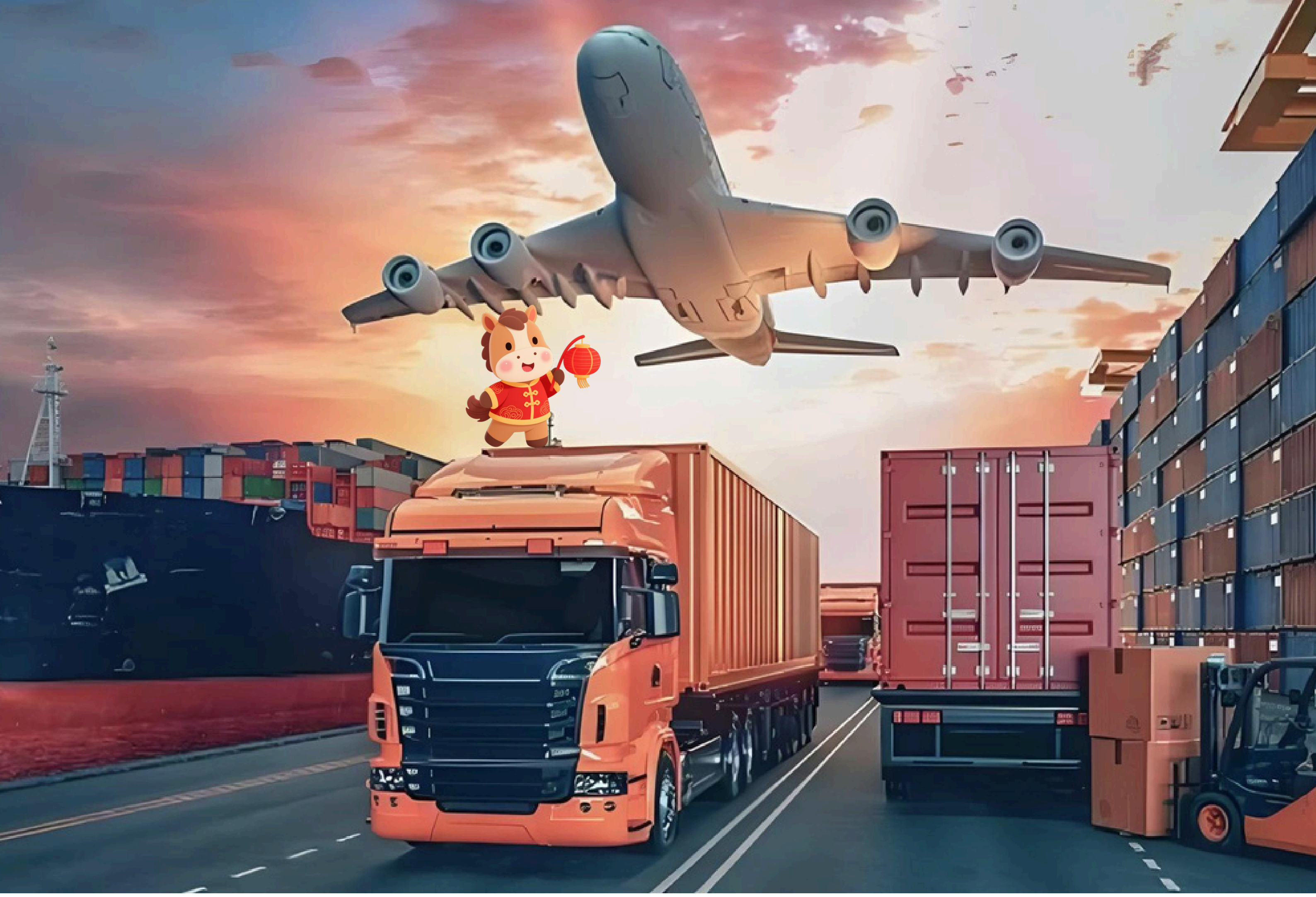
In the weeks before the holiday, Chinese manufacturers often accelerate production to meet export deadlines, creating a temporary surge in demand for freight services. However, port congestion and limited labor availability slow handling and extend turnaround times.

Shipping lines and freight forwarders warn that container availability may be constrained, with freight rates potentially rising. During the holiday, many factories and logistics hubs close entirely, further straining shipping schedules.

Analysts note these seasonal disruptions affect not only exports from China but also downstream supply chains worldwide, potentially delaying products in North America, Europe, and other regions. Experts advise companies to adjust sourcing, routing, and inventory schedules to mitigate the effects of labor shortages, port congestion, and high shipping demand.







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