

East Coast Ports Union Plans Strike Preparation Meeting

Description

The International Longshoremen's Association union, which represents 45,000 workers at major container ports from Texas to Maine, is in negotiations for a new contract. They are requesting a substantial 77 percent pay increase over the life of the contract, significantly higher than what their West Coast counterparts received last year. The talks have hit a roadblock as the union and the United States Maritime Alliance employer group discuss pay raises, automation, healthcare, and retirement benefits. The current contract is set to expire on September 30, and if a new agreement is not reached, there is a possibility of a strike starting on October 1.

This potential strike could have serious implications for key ports like New York/New Jersey, Houston, and Charleston, South Carolina, causing disruptions ahead of the holiday season and the U.S. presidential elections. Companies that rely on these ports have been proactive, bringing in goods earlier to mitigate any potential risks. Despite efforts from both sides to restart talks, concerns about a strike continue to grow each day without a resolution.

The National Retail Federation, along with other industry associations, has called for both parties to return to negotiations to avoid any disruptions that could impact retailers, consumers, and the economy. The situation is being closely monitored by various stakeholders and government agencies to ensure a swift and fair resolution.

Adapted from Reuters with modifications for language level.

Vocabulary List:

- 1. **Negotiations** /nɪˌgoʊʃi'eɪʃənz/ (noun): Discussions aimed at reaching an agreement.
- 2. **Substantial** /səb'stæn[əl/ (adjective): Of considerable importance size or worth.
- 3. **Disruptions** /dɪsˈrʌpʃənz/ (noun): Interferences that interrupt an expected process or event.
- 4. Mitigate /'mɪtɪ,geɪt/ (verb): To make less severe or serious.
- 5. **Proactive** /proʊˈæktɪv/ (adjective): Taking action to control a situation rather than just responding to it.
- 6. **Stakeholders** /'steɪk,hoʊldərz/ (noun): Individuals or groups with an interest in the outcome of a project or situation.

Comprehension Questions



Multiple Choice

1. How many workers does the International Longshoremen's Association union represent?

Option: 10,000 Option: 25,000 Option: 45,000 Option: 60,000

2. What percentage pay increase is the union requesting over the life of the new contract?

Option: 50% Option: 60% Option: 77% Option: 85%

3. When is the current contract set to expire?

Option: August 30 Option: September 15 Option: September 30 Option: October 1

NEWS.COM 4. Which ports could be impacted by a potential strike?

Option: San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle

Option: New York, Chicago, Miami

Option: New York/New Jersey, Houston, Charleston

Option: Boston, Atlanta, Dallas

5. What proactive measure have companies taken to mitigate risks?

Option: Delaying shipments Option: Increasing production Option: Bringing in goods earlier Option: Reducing workforce

6. Who has called for both parties to return to negotiations to avoid disruptions?

Option: International Maritime Organization

Option: National Retail Federation

Option: United Nations

Option: World Trade Organization



Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. 45,000 2. 77% 3. September 30 4. New York/New Jersey, Houston, Charleston 5. Bringing in goods earlier 6. National Retail Federation

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What can enhance the functionality of a web browser?

Option: Plugins Option: Hardware

Option: Operating system

Option: Firewall

2. A system is considered vulnerable when it is easily susceptible to what? ESL-NEWS

Option: Malware Option: Updates Option: Firewall Option: Antivirus

3. What provides a record of presence or absence?

Option: Calendar Option: Alarm Option: Clock

Option: Attendance register

4. Which approach involves taking action before problems occur?

Option: Reactive Option: Passive Option: Proactive Option: Indecisive

5. What process involves discussions aimed at reaching agreements?

Option: Coercion **Option: Negotiations** Option: Dictation Option: Confrontation



	Option: Isolation Option: Competition Option: Collaboration Option: Conflict
	Which term refers to the state or fact of exclusive rights and control over something? Option: Possession Option: Sharing Option: Borrowing Option: Ownership
	What is the quality of being thankful and appreciative? Option: Envy Option: Complacency Option: Skepticism Option: Gratitude
	Option: Gratitude Which term means showing great attention to detail? Option: Carelessly Option: Rapidly Option: Meticulously Option: Sporadically
	Option: Critics Option: Detractors Option: Opponents Option: Stakeholders Ap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)
11	thinking leads to groundbreaking discoveries and solutions.
12	. Success is often the result of hard work and
13	. To risks companies implement various safety measures.
14	. Natural disasters can cause significant to businesses.
15	. Each individual has a set of skills and characteristics.

6. What involves working together towards a common goal or purpose?



16. Event planners coordinate all the for a successful function.	
17. Societal guide behavior and expectations within a community.	
18. Some businesses adopt marketing strategies to dominate the market.	
19. Managers use various techniques to their employees.	
20. Investors are advised to be when considering high-risk ventures.	
Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)	
21. Sophisticated software is used for early of security threats.	
22. Teams must effectively to achieve project goals.	
23. The investment brought returns over the years.	
24. With determination and effort one can in any endeavor.	
25. Being in problem-solving can prevent future issues.	
26. A positive can greatly impact productivity and well-being.	
27. Taking of your mistakes is a sign of maturity.	
28. Companies that embrace ideas often lead in their industries.	
29. Expressing towards others can strengthen relationships.	
30. is key in overcoming challenges and achieving goals.	

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Plugins 2. Malware 3. Attendance register 4. Proactive 5. Negotiations 6. Collaboration 7. Ownership 8. Gratitude 9. Meticulously 10. Stakeholders

Gap-Fill: 11. Innovative 12. Persistence 13. Mitigate 14. Disruptions 15. Unique 16. Arrangements 17. Norms 18. Aggressive 19. Motivate 20. Cautious

Matching sentence: 1. Detection 2. Collaborate 3. Substantial 4. Succeed 5. Proactive 6. Mindset 7. Ownership 8. Innovative 9. Gratitude 10. Persistence



CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL3

Date Created 2024/09/05 **Author** aimeeyoung99

