

Asia-Europe spot rates defy carrier efforts to lift prices above contract levels



The order book has now reached 30% of the global in-service fleet at 9.7 million TEUs. Photo credit: Hapag-Lloyd.

[Greg Knowler, Senior Editor Europe](#) | Oct 24, 2025, 10:11 AM EDT

Spot rates from Asia to North Europe and the Mediterranean remain below long-term rates despite ocean carriers withdrawing significant amounts of capacity and pushing up prices ahead of the end-of-year tender season.

Carriers have stepped up efforts to stem the steadily falling spot market by blanking 213,724 TEUs of capacity on Asia-North Europe routes in October, the most withdrawn since March last year, according to eeSea. Drewry reports that carriers announced 90

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