



SQUEEZEBURGER

13 March

Delays on the world seas mean that several European and Asian port terminals are currently struggling with bottleneck situations, while containers are simply piling up on the quay. The Port of Hamburg is among those hit hardest.

In a newsletter the Port of Hamburg states: "Increasing ship sizes and the associated rise in throughput for container mega-ships has resulted in increased levels of fluctuation in capacity utilisation (peaks) at Hamburg's container terminals. In addition, since early 2014 a series of storms has resulted in ships arriving at the port with several day long delays."

The port notes that container stores are fully productive at a level of capacity utilisation of up to 80 percent. In many places, capacity utilisation is currently up from its normal level of 75 percent to almost 100 percent.

According to the newsletter, the average length of stay for a container has doubled in recent months. It is unable to say when the issues will be resolved.

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