

News : Asia-Europe box trade bounces back

Shanghai-Rotterdam surges nearly 14% as lines stall ships to squeeze out supply

The rise is evidence that the lines' strategy of stalling ships in Asia to squeeze out supply has worked.

The blanking or voiding of voyages seems to have had the desired effect. Reports are coming in that ships are leaving Asia for Europe around 95% full in the cargo rush ahead of Chinese new year commencing February 10.

Maersk Line's north Asia chief executive Tim Smith has gone on record to say that balancing supply and demand "is the game we need to play again in 2013".

"We had too much cargo in the last few weeks [of 2012] that we had to roll containers back to sailings," Mr Smith said.

Updated Currency , Oil Price

