

## Market Pulse 2024 Week 37

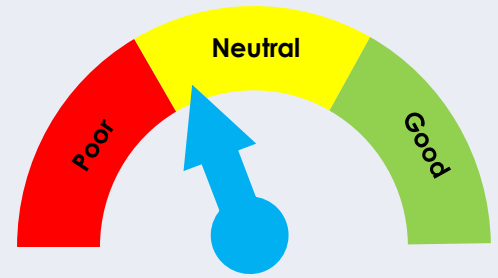
**IN FOCUS this week**  
MSC and Premier Alliance partnership

### MARKET BRIEF 2024 WEEK 37

MSC and the Premier Alliance have announced a new partnership covering 9 Asia-Europe services commencing in February 2025 which will set the stage for a fresh alliance competition next year with the newly formed Gemini Cooperation and existing OCEAN Alliance.

These carriers remain locked in their current price war as the SCFI tumbled by a further 8% last week with the Asia-North Europe and Asia-USEC seeing the sharpest drops. Even the imminent strike planned at US East Coast ports starting on 1 October provided little impetus for the market as carrier aborted their plans to hike freight rates in mid-September, with cargo demand insufficient to support any increase ahead of the October holidays in China. Rates to the US East Coast have dropped sharply with demand shifting to the West Coast ahead of the ILA strike.

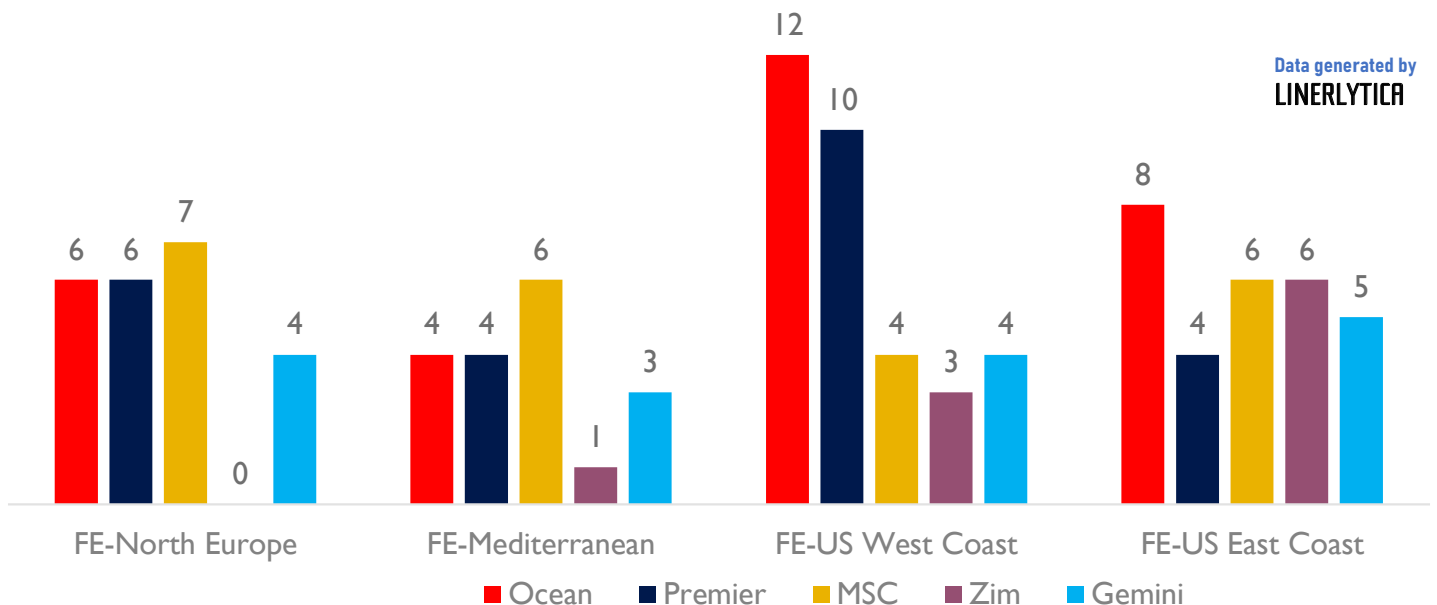
### CONTAINER MARKET BAROMETER 2024 WEEK 37



### MSC and Premier Alliance to cooperate on Far East-Europe trade

MSC and the Premier Alliance (the new name that ONE, HMM and Yang Ming have chosen to replace the current THE Alliance) have announced a new partnership on the Far East-Europe trade that will involve slot swaps covering 5 services to North Europe and 4 services to the Mediterranean commencing from February 2025. In addition to these, MSC will independently operate 2 additional services to North Europe and 2 services to the Med, ensuring that it remains the largest carrier on the Far East-Europe route. The Premier Alliance will operate one smaller North Europe service on its own without MSC that will allow it to match the OCEAN Alliance in terms of weekly sailings, leaving Gemini Cooperation with the smallest number of weekly services on the route.

No. of weekly services by Alliance per Trade (2025)



### Freight futures continue downward spiral

The main EC freight futures contracts for December 2024 (EC2412) tumbled by 23% over the past week on high trading volumes. Carriers continued to slash FAK rates to North Europe, with market sentiment remaining bearish. Contrarian views are providing support for EC2410 on the belief that October contracts have been oversold at its current 52% discount to the SCFIS. Open interests increased by 11% WoW, indicating the high conviction that traders have on their positions.

Contracts	Closing Price			Vs SCFIS 4,566	Avg Daily Volume (contracts)			Avg Daily Turnover (\$M)			Open Interest (contracts)		
	9-Sep	2-Sep	WoW		Week 36	Week 35	WoW	Week 36	Week 35	WoW	9-Sep	2-Sep	WoW
EC2410	2,190	2,567	-15%	-52%	9,325	7,726	21%	158	159	0%	16,235	16,001	1%
EC2412	1,608	2,077	-23%	-65%	67,231	40,231	67%	885	676	31%	41,907	34,026	23%
EC2502	1,355	1,661	-18%	-70%	12,928	10,311	25%	138	134	3%	18,636	16,439	13%
EC2504	1,122	1,303	-14%	-75%	18,441	16,500	12%	154	165	-7%	17,150	16,985	1%
EC2506	1,125	1,301	-14%	-75%	6,287	5,819	8%	53	58	-8%	8,856	9,240	-4%
EC2508	1180	1509.4	-22%	-74%	2348.2	2663.4	-12%	20	27	-27%	2653	2351	13%
<b>Total</b>					<b>114,213</b>	<b>80,587</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>1,389</b>	<b>1,192</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>102,784</b>	<b>92,691</b>	<b>11%</b>

Shanghai Export Containerized Freight Index based on Settled Rates (SCFIS) vs Futures



CoFIF Daily Closing Price

