

MIDDLE EAST SUPPLY CHAIN OPERATIONAL UPDATES

MARCH 26, 2026

If you would like to subscribe to Marken's Supply Chain Update communications via email, please contact expert@marken.com.

Marken, UPS Healthcare Precision Logistics, continues to closely monitor the evolving Middle East situation, where airspace closures, flight suspensions, and regional disruptions affect supply chain logistics.

We are Ready-Now: While geopolitical disruptions constrain others, Marken stays fully operational, delivering precision solutions that safeguard patient safety and product integrity at every step.

GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Ongoing conflict involving Iran and Israel has triggered widespread airspace restrictions and no-fly zones over parts of the Middle East. Multiple airlines and integrators have suspended or rerouted flights via the Gulf and Levant, particularly on the Asia–Middle East–Europe corridor, increasing transit times and reducing capacity for time-sensitive cargo.
- Several carriers have also cancelled or adjusted services around the region due to temporary airport disruptions, airspace closures, and security incidents at major Middle Eastern hubs. These changes have required diversions, schedule adjustments, and the addition of ad-hoc flights to reposition aircraft and support affected passengers and cargo flows.
- Major ocean carriers have tightened their risk controls around the Strait of Hormuz and continue to limit exposure on Suez Canal/Red Sea routings, maintaining or reintroducing diversions around the Cape of Good Hope on selected services. These measures can add transit time, disrupt sailing schedules, and contribute to equipment imbalances on connected trade lanes.
- Shippers are being advised by leading freight forwarders to plan for longer lead times, secure bookings earlier, and share detailed forecasts to help protect capacity and adjust safety stocks where feasible. Proactive communication and scenario planning remain critical to maintaining service continuity in this evolving environment.

If you have questions about a specific shipment or our operations in a particular area, please contact your local Marken branch or your business development professional.

APAC REGION (ASIA–PACIFIC)



CHINA / NORTH ASIA



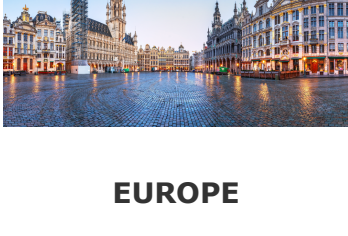
INDIA / SOUTH ASIA



**SOUTHEAST ASIA
(SINGAPORE,
THAILAND, VIETNAM)**

- Many flights that previously routed via the Middle East between Asia and Europe have been re-timed or rerouted via more northerly or southerly paths, depending on carrier and airspace restrictions.
- These reroutings are increasing flight times on some corridors and can lead to occasional last-minute schedule changes or equipment swaps.
- Ocean services transiting the Arabian Sea and Gulf are affected by diversions and heightened security measures, which can disrupt schedules and routing on certain services.
- Air cargo moving through Gulf hubs is experiencing periods of capacity tightening and schedule variability as carriers adjust networks and manage risk.
- Local operations stable; long-haul to Europe/North America impacted via Middle East overflights/hubs.

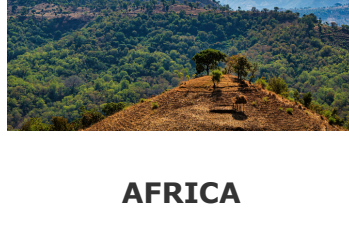
EMEA REGION (EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA)



EUROPE



MIDDLE EAST



AFRICA

- Ports/airports face schedule shifts from longer Asia voyages, Middle East-avoiding air paths.
- Tighter capacity on some lanes.
- Collection volumes to/from clinical sites drop during Eid, with pickup adjustments (dates vary by country).
- Airspace restrictions cause airlines to suspend, reroute, or consolidate flights on affected corridors.
- Ocean carriers cautiously adjust Strait of Hormuz transits with selective diversions and port call changes.
- Middle East hub routings see schedule/capacity changes.
- East Africa Red Sea/Suez trades face extended transits.

Additional Regional Updates:

- **Bahrain (Closed):** Airspace and airports remain suspended.
- **Israel (Closed):** Airspace restrictions ongoing with few open flights available; limited civilian flights operating to select cities in EU, US and Asia.
- **Jordan (Open):** Amman Airport (AMM) operational with multiple airlines including Royal Jordanian (RJ) and codeshares (e.g., Qatar Airways, Turkish Airlines); airspace restrictions lifted as of late March 2026.
- **Kuwait (Closed):** Airspace and airports remain suspended.
- **Saudi Arabia (Open):** Riyadh, Jeddah, and Dammam remain operational, with limited export frequencies. Saudi Arabia Airlines, Emirates and Turkish Airlines are operational however, TK schedule (TK currently not ready to accept time-sensitive shipments until the end of this month)
- **Lebanon (Open/Limited):** Beirut Airport (BEY) is operational with reduced schedules; only Middle East Airlines (MEA) is flying limited routes. Lebanese airspace remains open.
- **Egypt (Open):** Airports operational with reduced schedules. Transit times extended due to regional rerouting and cancellations.
- **UAE (DXB & AUH - Open):** Airlines EK (flights operational from DXB and AUH), EY (limited services from AUH), TK, ME, MS, RJ, FZ operational primarily in DXB with limited flights/routes; expect possible delays, cancellations, customs clearance issues, and delivery disruptions due to current regional situations.
- **Qatar (Open):** Hamad International Airport -Qatar Airways have started flights as per [flight schedule link](#).
- **Oman (Open):** Operations remain near normal with low overall impact. Major carriers (Qatar Airways, Emirates, Etihad) heavily restricted; Oman Air serving limited availability to key destinations.
- **Marken's Home Healthcare & Site Support:** Our services remain available in Saudi Arabia, UAE, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, and Egypt to help maintain select study visits, support protocol adherence, ensure patient safety, and augment impacted site staffing, subject to local security and access conditions.

LATIN & CENTRAL AMERICA REGIONS

Latin and Central American operations are not at the epicenter of the Middle East crisis, but they are increasingly affected indirectly through global capacity constraints and network imbalances, particularly on Asia/Europe–LATAM flows that rely on shared long-haul aircraft and ocean capacity. As carriers redeploy aircraft and vessels to manage ongoing disruptions in the Middle East corridor, secondary markets such as Latin America are experiencing periodic capacity tightening, schedule volatility, and shifting routings on key tradelanes.

- Ocean shipments that would normally transit via Suez or Gulf routes are seeing longer transit times and reduced schedule reliability as services are diverted around the Cape of Good Hope, driving extended lead times, vessel bunching, and intermittent port congestion in Europe. These upstream disruptions can cascade into Latin American services via delayed feeder connections, equipment dislocation, and ad-hoc schedule adjustments.
- Airfreight accessing Latin America via European or Middle Eastern hubs is subject to schedule changes, longer routings, and short-term capacity shortages as carriers avoid or reduce use of affected Middle East airspace and hubs. The resulting reconfiguration of long-haul networks can tighten available lift on certain Europe–LATAM and Asia–LATAM corridors, especially during seasonal demand peaks or surge events.

NORTH AMERICA REGION

North American operations remain generally stable, but are indirectly affected by the same global capacity, routing, and rate dynamics seen in other regions. Network adjustments across international air and ocean services continue to create secondary impacts on capacity allocation and equipment availability on North American lanes.

More flights are avoiding Middle East airspace, and ocean carriers serving North America from Asia and Europe are still managing knock-on effects from Red Sea/Suez diversions and broader Gulf security concerns. These conditions can contribute to occasional schedule variability, longer transit times on certain routes, and periodic pressure on available air and ocean capacity, particularly during demand surges or peak seasons.

MARKEN'S ONGOING RESPONSE & COMMITMENT TO PATIENTS

Marken Prioritizes Patient Safety, Product Integrity, and Data Quality Above All. When Middle East routings disrupt, we execute rigorous risk assessments evaluating carrier operations, transit times, and lane-specific security—to deploy alternative global solutions: rerouted ocean services, hybrid air-sea/air-ground/UPS network pathways, and stable hub connections that protect study timelines despite delays.



Our Proactive Disruption Response

- 24/7 monitoring of airline suspensions, airspace closures, and schedule changes.
- Partner coordination to triage and recover cold chain shipments.
- Alternative routings/carriers for time/temperature-critical cargo (with transparent TAT updates).
- Continuous communication on routing, collections, and constraints.
- Origin facility/vendor/airline sync for rapid recovery, secure storage, and re-icing.

We're Here to Support You

Marken's self-healing UPS network and proven mitigation strategies ensure business continuity. This dynamic situation receives constant 24/7 oversight—contact your local representative or info@marken.com for immediate support.

Talk with an expert today: expert@marken.com

Stay connected to our latest Supply Chain Operational Updates located on our website:

[Read More](#)