



## Customer Advisory

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear Valued Customers

**Subject: Notice regarding Drop-Off of Empty Containers – Update (Addition of Dammam for drop off of 40 HC only)**

This advisory serves as an update to our previous notice dated **23<sup>rd</sup> March (Customer Advisory – Drop off of Empty Containers)** regarding the buildup of empty containers and related storage costs in the Middle East, wherein it was advised that effective immediately and until further notice, the following terms and charges apply for existing and new import shipments into the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain and Iraq.

**Please be advised that Dammam, KSA has now been added to the list of exempt return locations; however, this exemption is strictly applicable to 40'HC containers only.**

Irrespective of the port of destination on the Bill of Lading or where the cargo was actually delivered, ESL will charge **USD 550/ TEU** as Container Drop-off Charge.

Empty containers returned to the locations listed below will be exempt from the Container Drop-off Charge:

- Dammam, KSA (**only for drop off of 40 HC**)
- Jeddah, KSA
- Sohar, Oman

As per clause 8 of the Bill of Lading (Liberties), the additional Container Drop-off Charge will apply to cover the costs and operational expenses, in addition to the other charges and costs mentioned in our previous customer advisories. ESL sincerely appreciates your understanding and cooperation during this time. For further clarification, please contact your local ESL representative.

Thank you.