

Inland Container Depot And Dry Port - Market Share Analysis, Industry Trends & Statistics, Growth Forecasts (2025 - 2030)

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Report description:

The Inland Container Depot And Dry Port Market size is estimated at USD 31.04 billion in 2025, and is expected to reach USD 40.48 billion by 2030, at a CAGR of greater than 5.45% during the forecast period (2025-2030).

Key Highlights

- The inland container depot and dry port industry faced a downturn due to port closures, congestion, and fuel price hikes, largely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, global container transport volumes dipped by approximately 0.8%, directly impacting the market studied. Conversely, a recent surge in container freight rates, attributed to the Red Sea crisis, has dissuaded major players from investing in container storage and maintenance.
- Companies opting for inland container depots (ICDs) tailor their choices based on the nature of the cargo, which can range from cars and merchandise to crude oil and minerals. After the COVID-19 pandemic, the global market witnessed rising demand for ICDs. This surge was fueled by the expanding domestic and international e-commerce markets, improving trade relations, and the proliferation of free-trade agreements. Notably, global goods trade hit USD 2 trillion in 2023, as reported by the UN Trade and Development, a trend expected to persist, propelling market growth.
- The market's growth is primarily driven by escalating maritime trade and the increasing demand for container handling services. However, market growth is restrained due to the challenges of high port and storage service costs. The market is poised for new opportunities, especially with the advent of cutting-edge technologies like artificial intelligence, automation, IoT, and robotics.
- While Asia-Pacific leads the market, North America emerges as the fastest-growing region. Asia-Pacific, witnessing a surge in new port investments, stands out, with India alone injecting over USD 82 billion into 400+ ports. Not to be outdone, China, Singapore, Japan, and the Philippines actively embrace new technologies in their port developments. In contrast, North America boasts a robust presence of port and container handling entities.

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Inland Container Depot and Dry Port Market Trends

Multimodal Connectivity Boosts Demand for Inland Container Depots

- The push for sustainability in freight and logistics has propelled the rise of multimodal transportation. This approach emphasizes using multiple modes of transport (trucks, trains, ships, etc.) to ensure cargo rigidity and prevent damage during transitions. Consequently, there has been a surge in demand for containerized cargo, given their solid and durable nature. This uptick in container demand has directly translated into a heightened need for inland container depots and dry ports.
- Enhanced rail and road connections make inland container depots (ICDs) more accessible and efficient, fueling market growth. By bridging seaports and inland areas, these depots are becoming pivotal for intermodal transportation, driving up the need for container storage and maintenance services.
- The logistics industry is increasingly turning to rail freight as a key component of its multimodal services, aiming for more efficient cargo movement in each trip. This shift is directly amplifying the demand for containerized transport, subsequently spiking the need for ICDs.
- With the surge in rail freight volumes, the demand for ICDs is poised to follow suit. Notably, the United States witnessed a steady rise in rail freight volumes from 2016, culminating in 2.18 trillion tonne-km in 2023. This trend is not exclusive to the United States; similar patterns are seen globally.
- Multimodal connectivity, which blends road, rail, and sometimes waterway transport, is at the core of this surge. ICDs, serving as central hubs for these modes, facilitate seamless cargo transfers, enhancing overall transport efficiency and trimming transit times.
- This efficiency, cost savings, and the ability to navigate modern supply chain complexities make ICDs increasingly indispensable. As global trade expands, the significance of ICDs in the broader transport network is only set to grow.

The Americas is the Fastest-growing Region

- International trade significantly bolsters the economic landscapes of the Americas. North America's ports, serving as crucial trade gateways, witness the transit of billions of tons of cargo annually, facilitated by ships, trains, and trucks.
- Latin America, contributing around 7% to global maritime trade, predominantly ships raw minerals, vegetables, and a diverse range of food products. This surge in exports has, in turn, fueled the need for more containers and inland container terminals. The region's trade dynamics are intricately linked to the world's primary maritime routes, notably Europe, North America, and, increasingly, Asia-Pacific.
- The top 20 ports and container terminals in Latin America, as highlighted by an industry association, accounted for over 80% of the region's total throughput. In 2023, imports of containerized goods into SAEC (East Coast South America) from the Far East saw a steady rise, with volumes spiking by 14.5% in the initial eight months, translating to an extra 20,000 TEU monthly.
- While the spot market for these goods exhibited volatility, rates by October had only dipped by -2% from the year's start, averaging at USD 2,716 per FEU over the period but fluctuating between USD 2,048 and USD 3,286.
- This data underscores the mounting sea freight demand across the Americas, propelling increased container throughput and bolstering the market studied.

Inland Container Depot and Dry Port Industry Overview

The market is relatively fragmented, with several players operating depots on global and regional levels like A.P. Moller-Maersk,

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Boasso Global, Container Corporation of India (CONCOR), APM Terminals, and Hapag Llyod. As many companies are jumping into the market, the market is expected to grow during the forecast period. Additionally, to accelerate international trade, governments of several countries in Europe and Asia are offering container depot services, which is further expected to strengthen the market

Additional Benefits:

- The market estimate (ME) sheet in Excel format
- 3 months of analyst support

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