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## Highlights

### The Global Consolidator Alliance (GCA)

In order to provide better service coverage for the international freight forwarding community, Globelink formed the Global Consolidator Alliance (GCA) in 2009, together with key agents in the global network. GCA is an effective combination of global reach with local practices; an alliance of leading consolidators across the world. You will always find the familiarity of a local company meeting your local needs, yet with a highly effective global presence no different from dealing with a global network. Through its secretariat in Singapore, GCA provides central coordination platforms, offering a common front for global customers.

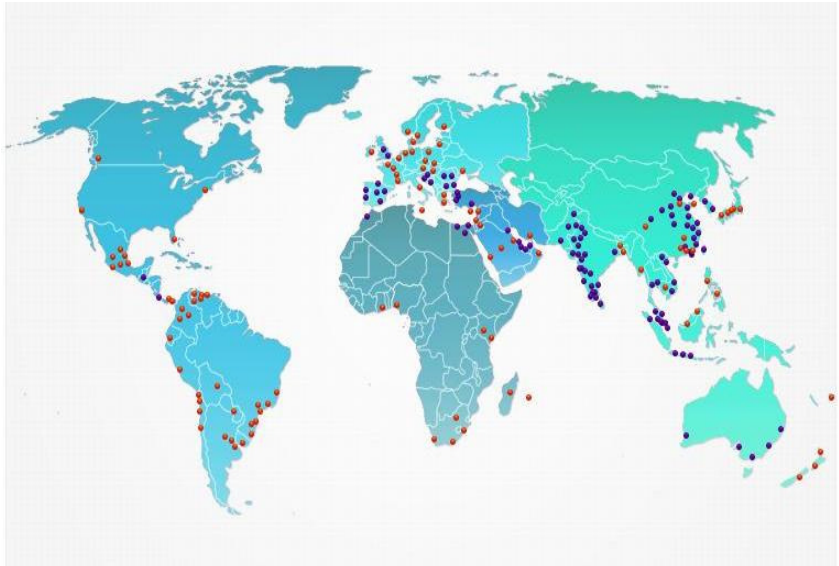
Some of the common features of GCA are as follows:

- Single Point of Contact - commercial discussion, RFQ management
- Central Policy / Decision
- Local contact for day to day operations
- Integrated IT Platform
- Global Shipment Track & Trace
- Common Platform for EDI integration with customers
- Online Booking System
- Common Data gathering platform & Reporting

The Globelink-GCA network handles more than 5.5 mil cbm of LCL cargo annually with a comprehensive network coverage of over 1,600 direct trade lanes, linking close to 100 port of origins to 200 port of destinations. Further supported by the comprehensive pre-carriage and on-carriage capabilities, more than 1,600 global origins and destinations are seamlessly and efficiently connected by the Globelink-GCA network.



**Annual LCL cargo handled by GCA network > 5.5 mil cbm**



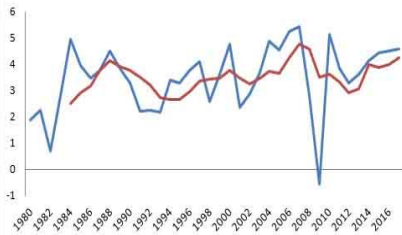
As the network expand, so will our comprehensive coverage. With a common ambition to strive for common service standard and customer sales experience, the members of GCA forged together a consensus/commitment that cover a wide range of areas including operations integration and commercial benefits.

These fundamental ground work help make GCA a formidable network of consolidators primed for progress, constantly offering market driven products, striving to exceed the expectation of its customers and partners. Our synchronized efforts will provide the service excellence so much required by today's global forwarders who in turn serve their global customers. We offer a viable platform for companies that require global solutions for their global needs.

GCA is your Global Choice for your Global needs.

For more details about GCA, please visit our website: <http://www.gca-online.net> or contact us: [gcasecretariat@gca-online.net](mailto:gcasecretariat@gca-online.net)

## WTO Expects Slow Growth for Global Trade in 2016



Growth in the volume of world trade is expected to remain stagnant in 2016 at 2.8%, unchanged with the growth recorded in 2015, as uncertainties weigh on global demand in spite of low oil prices as a result of the sluggish Chinese, Brazilian and European economies.

"Trade is still registering positive growth, albeit at a disappointing rate," said World Trade Organization (WTO) Director-General Roberto Azevêdo during a press conference. Although there is growth in the volume of global trade, its value has dropped due to shifting exchange rates and falls in commodity prices.

This would be the 5th consecutive year of trade growth below 3% and trade was also particularly volatile throughout the year, falling in the second quarter in both developed and developing countries before picking up in the final half. However it is predicted that global trade growth should rise to 3.6% in 2017.

The sharp decline of oil prices in the past year was a positive factor for container growth, although the overall growth from historical perspective is considered quite sluggish. Container demand used to reach a growth level of 10% a year in the past, but those numbers are unseen of in the recent years.

Financial instability in Asia has mostly subsided but could return if economic data come in above or below market expectations. On the other hand, more accommodative monetary policy from the European Central Bank could spur growth in the euro area and boost demand for goods and services, including imports.



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hear from you!***

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## Holidays in APRIL 2016

Australia	25 Apr	Anzac Day
China	04 Apr	Ching Ming Festival
Costa Rica	11 Apr	Battle Of Rivas
Egypt	25 Apr	Sinai Liberation Day
Hong Kong	04 Apr	Ching Ming Festival
Korea	13 Apr	National Assembly Election
Portugal	25 Apr	Liberation Day
Slovenia	27 Apr	Resistance Day
Sri Lanka	13 to 14 Apr	Sinhala and Tamil New Year
	21 Apr	Bak Full Moon Poya Day
Taiwan	04 Apr	Children's Day
	04 Apr	Qingming Festival
Thailand	06 Apr	Chakri Day
	13 to 15 Apr	Songkran Festival
Turkey	23 Apr	National Sovereignty & Children's Day
Vietnam	16 Apr	Hung Kings' Commemoration Day
	30 Apr	Liberation Day

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