

Monday, October 3, 2022



Coping with Hurricane Ian's Aftermath

Hurricane Ian devastated southwest Florida, but it also affected the Tampa Bay area on Wednesday evening 9/28 and Thursday 9/29 with heavy rain and gusting Cat2, Cat1, and eventually sustained tropical storm-force winds. The storm toppled trees causing significant debris and widespread power outages to 275,000+ electric customers in the immediate area, including MTW's.

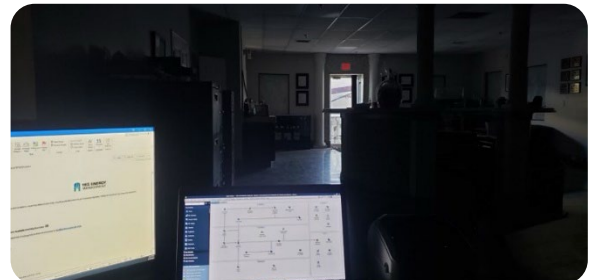
MTW's Current State of Operations

We were without power from Wednesday through Saturday, but we also understand that our problems are not those of our customers. To catch up on the worktime lost to the storm, MTW did work on Friday and Saturday, thanks to the power of a large RV generator. Power has since been restored and MTW is now currently back to full operational status.

Ian's Impact on the Supply Chain

In the aftermath of Hurricane Ian, many things remain out of our control as the storm slammed Florida's supply chain. The logistic impacts could last for weeks — or longer. Keep in mind that everything affects everything. The list below describes some of the obstacles we are working around to get product in and out to you as quickly as possible:

- **Gas stations** have reported fuel shortages and access issues.
- FDOT is working to make sure as many roads and **interstate highways** as possible remain open. A main north/south Florida interstate (I-75) currently has some significant interruptions.
- Hurricane Ian also shut down key **ports**, including Port Tampa Bay for a short amount of time.
- With the storm then moving into Georgia and the Carolinas, their Port Authorities also reported some reduced operating hours and cutoff times for **container pickups and drop-offs**.
- Some **vessel service** was shutdown (or they were sent back out, offshore) until Saturday. The Port of Savannah, the fourth-largest container port in the country was expecting 70+ mph wind gusts, 6-to-8 inches of rain and a 3-to-5-foot storm surge on Friday, which would affect their schedules.
- Eight states were prioritizing **motor carriers** to move emergency relief supplies, equipment and fuel into states affected by Hurricane Ian. The emergency order increased allowed driving windows and covers Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.
- UPS and FedEx suspended service Wednesday and Thursday in our area, creating their own backlog of service here. **FedEx, UPS, U.S. Postal Service and XPO Logistics** are reporting delivery delays across the Southeast.
- **Airports** in Florida are recovering from cancelled or delayed flights. The thousands of flight cancellations are likely to create ripple effects on airline networks across the country.
- CSX shut down several **railroad facilities** in the Tampa area, in addition to its intermodal hub in Winterhaven and other centers across Florida.



Our strength is generated from our commitment to our customers, our industry, and our employees. We do have product in stock. Please continue to place your orders. The entire MTW team is back at work and communicating with our suppliers and carriers daily so we can keep your orders filled. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through this interruption to the superior service that we strive for, and that you hopefully have become accustomed to.