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# VI. TRANSPORTATION SERVICES TO IRAQ

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## Sea

There are six shipping lines operating monthly sailings from eastern Canadian ports and sailings at least monthly from Vancouver to the principal ports in The Gulf. A major problem in shipping to the Middle East is the serious congestion resulting from the inability of ports to cope with the substantial increase in imports into the area. As a result, shipments can face significant surcharges depending on the cause of the delays. Close consultation with a knowledgeable freight forwarder or shipping line is necessary to choose the most cost-efficient system at time of shipment.

## Air

There are no scheduled air services between Canada and Iraq. Passenger or cargo charter services, however, can be arranged on an as-required basis to most major airports in the Middle East. Air Canada and CP Air can provide connections with scheduled carriers serving the area at gateways such as New York, London, Paris, Frankfurt and Rome. Currently, the most direct flight is from Mirabel to Amman on Royal Jordanian with a direct transfer on Royal Jordanian to Baghdad.