

NORTH STAR

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# NEWS

# INSIDE

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### **PETROBRAS will reduce its production by 100 thousand BDP by the end of March**

The COVID-19 crisis has caused significant reductions in demand for oil products, especially diesel, gasoline and jet fuel in Brazil and worldwide. In this sense, the company decided to reduce a total of 100 thousand BDP (barrels per day) of its oil production by the end of March, due to the oversupply of this product on the foreign market and the reduction in world oil demand caused by the effect of the coronavirus (COVID-19). The company will assess market conditions and, if necessary, make further adjustments in oil production.

### **In the first half of March sugar cane grinding reaches almost 3 million tons**

In the first half of March, units in the Center-South region processed 2.99 million tons of sugarcane, almost 90% of which was destined for the production of ethanol (243.76 million liters). The manufactured quantity of sugar reached only 40.83 thousand tons. In the accumulated since the beginning of the 2019/2020 harvest, the crushing

amounted to 582.92 million tons, while sugar and ethanol production reached 26.53 million tons and 32.79 billion liters. Only a fortnight remains for the end of the harvest, and this volume of renewable energy exceeds the previous record of 30.95 billion liters, recorded last season, by 2.20 billion liters. Contributing to this record, ethanol production from corn totaled 1.50 billion liters until March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020, with 85.59 million liters manufactured in the first fifteen days of March.

### **PETROBRAS reduces gasoline prices by 15% at refineries starting this week**

The PETROBRAS informed the distributors that it will reduce the price of gasoline at refineries by an average of 15% as from this week. This is the tenth time that the oil company has lowered the price of fuel this year, and follows the drop in oil prices on the international market. According to ANP (Agência Nacional do Petróleo, Gás Natural e Biocombustíveis - National Agency of Petroleum, Natural Gas and Biofuels), the increase was not linear, so much so that in some locations the price was reduced by R\$ 0.20, and in others the drop was even greater.

## PORTS OF BRAZIL

### Port of Paranaguá

The harvest of the 2020 soybean harvest has already started, and the forecast is that it will reach a new record. The APPA, i.e. Port Authority of Ports of Paranaguá and Antonina, is preparing to receive the truckers who transport the grain. The screening yard at Port of Paranaguá will have its pavement recovered. The investment is R\$ 1.9 million. The area receives a new layer of concrete, made especially to be more resistant and durable. The work follows what was done last year to improve the traffic of heavy vehicles and the efficiency of the operation. In 2019, 14.7 million tons of cargo arrived at the port via trucks, equivalent to 67% of the total bulk handled in the year.

### Shipping Agency

The shipping agency service values for quality and agility in attendance of foreign and Brazilian flag vessels, provision of information to companies involved in foreign trade and internal market in real time, with competitive prices in relation to port and maritime costs, and the search for harmony between public and private stakeholders in the supply chain. North Star operates in different segments, serving bulk vessels (solid and liquid), loose cargo, offshore ships, project cargo, dredgers and passenger ships, providing quality services for large and consolidated market players.

### Shipbrokers

As a result of negotiation and relationship skills with leading Shipowners and their representatives in 5 (five) continents, competitive prices of freight and special conditions on hiring of vessels are offered, thus helping trading companies, importers and exporters that need to transport their cargo around the world.

### Consultancy

It offers the market solution in the resolution of maritime demurrage disputes, making the management of recovery or settlement with the involved shipping companies. The technical, pre-operational and operational follow-up is performed of vessels in ports, ensuring that contract clauses will be achieved and complied.

### Customs Clearance

Customs clearance is a fiscal procedure by which all goods coming or going abroad must be submitted for the exporter to receive final permission to send their goods and the importer obtains authorization to receive their imported goods. Our function as Customs Brokers is to prepare and sign the documents that serve as basis for customs clearance, import and export, verifying the tariff framework of the respective merchandise and arranging the payment of import taxes and industrialized products, as well as the state tax (ICMS). We act toward to several public agencies linked to numerous Government Ministries (Health, Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, Finance, and others), finalizing the obtaining of documents or information via Siscomex necessary for the fiscal procedure (import licenses, export records, certificates of origin, phytosanitary certificates, among others). Our goal is to bring our customers, importers and exporters, peace of mind to carry out their activities in foreign trade with the highest transparency and efficiency throughout the process.

## TRAINING

### North Star Training

North Star develops training in a variety of areas, helping partners achieve excellence. We conduct courses within our facilities, or InCompany training. Make your quote.

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