

NEWSLETTER**LOGISTICS & TRANSPORTATION****15 - 21 December 2025****Record-high parcel volume reflects China's economic vitality**

In 2025, China's express delivery volume hit a record 180 billion parcels, exceeding 160 billion per month (over 6,200 per second) and remaining the world's largest for 11 consecutive years. This growth is powered by rising online consumption, a booming rural market (e.g., ZTO's 12.9 billion rural parcels, with farm products up 21.5%), and new technologies like cold chain and smart delivery. ([China Daily](#))

Yangtze plan shows path forward for delta's future

The State Council approved the region's first national-level Yangtze River Delta Territorial Spatial Plan (2023–2035), focusing on logistics and transportation. It supports Shanghai in leading metropolitan integration, strengthens spatial guarantees and connectivity for infrastructure, uses a “one-map” system to coordinate the layout, and promotes cross-provincial coordination to build a world-class city cluster. ([China Daily](#))

Breakthrough in wireless goods trains

On December 9th, China successfully conducted the world's first fully wireless control test of a 35,000-ton heavy-haul train on the Baoshen Railway in Inner Mongolia. Using a self-developed intelligent system to coordinate seven 5,000-ton units wirelessly, the technology eliminates traditional couplers and can boost existing line capacity by over 50%. ([CCTV News](#))

Civil drones logged a cumulative 24.47 million flight hours in the first half of 2025

Data from the China Air Transport Association showed that by the end of 2024, a total of 2.213 million drones had been registered under real names nationwide, up 74.7% year-on-year, with that number having already reached 2.726 million by the end of June this year. In addition, civil drones also logged a cumulative 24.47 million flight hours from January to June, a year-on-year growth of 149%. ([China Daily](#))

Hainan FTP launches international services portal

The Hainan Free Trade Port launched an international services portal on Dec. 15, three days before the launch of its landmark island-wide special customs operations. The portal, en.hainan.gov.cn, centralizes information and streamlines services for expatriates and foreign-invested enterprises. The timing coincides with the island province's push to increase accessibility as it reaches a key juncture in its development. ([China Daily](#))