**Chapter 12**

**The COVID-19 Pandemic**

The COVID-19 pandemic created a number of crises for organizations and entire industries. When the virus moved through China in late 2019, many Western firms that relied on Chinese suppliers were unable to obtain need parts and finished goods. The *Financial Times* explains how the pandemic has affected commerce between Asia and the West.

*Use with:* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MvG8c8v5Nfw> (4:51)

1. How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected the flow of ships from Asia to Europe and the United States?
2. What are the anticipated long-term impacts of COVID-19 on global trade?
3. How will the China-US trade relationship impact the shipping industry next few years?
4. How will increases in automation affect East-West shipping in the next decade?