

Container Logistics Glossary



J&S Maritime Ltd

J&S Maritime provide generic and bespoke training to stakeholders in the container terminal sector. They offer a unique blend of industry experience, applied knowledge and conceptual insight supported by academic rigour. Excelling in interactive classroom delivery and engaging eLearning courses through NowLearn.net they deliver best in class training content that engages attendees whether they are new to the industry or have decades of experience.

Dr Jeff Martin

Jeffrey Martin graduated with a BSc Honours degree in Maritime Studies and was awarded a PhD from the University of Wales for his research on strategic relationships in container terminal communities. He has over 25 years of international experience in the industry including periods in export shipping, project finance, software development and business consultancy.

Jeffrey has a particular interest in terminal automation and in the education of port workers and frontline managers. He works with many global companies in the container sector delivering operational, management and executive training on behalf of terminal operators, technology providers and consultancy firms.

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Dr Sally Martin

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On graduating with a BSc Honours degree in International Transport she undertook at a PhD at the University of Wales assessing the potential for rail freight in the UK.

Following 15 years in industry where she became Chief of Staff to a major UK engineering company supplying the offshore oil and gas sector she returned to academia in 2011.

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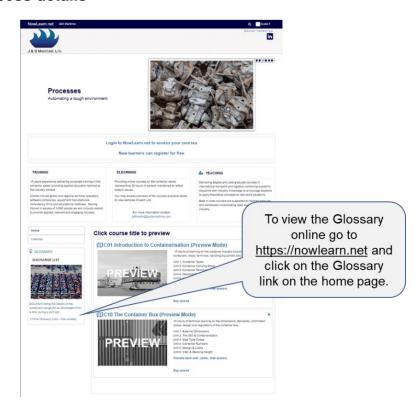
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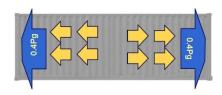
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0.4Pg

Factor used in the calculation of the end wall test - containers must withstand a force equivalent to 40% of the maximum mass payload travelling at 9.8m/s

Example

Maximum payload = 28,000kg 40% of Maximum payload = 11,200kg Test based on 11,200kg travelling at 9.8 meters per second spread evenly over end wall



0.6Pg

Factor used in the calculation of the side wall test - containers must withstand a force equivalent to 60% of the maximum mass payload travelling at 9.8m/s

Example

Maximum payload = 28,000kg 60% of Maximum payload = 16,800kg Test based on 16,800kg travelling at 9.8 meters per second spread evenly over side wall

1 over x

The number of containers a crane can pass over when moving a container – for example a 1 over 2 straddle carrier can lift one container over stack of two containers



1.8q

Factor used in the calculation of allowable stacking loads - to account for dynamic and environmental loads that may be encountered by containers during operations

10 + 2 (import security filing)

A custom submission of information on goods by an importer of goods to the USA that must be completed before goods are loaded at the vessel's departure port – includes details of exporter, importer, origin of goods and HS Code

150kn

Represents the ISO load value to be used for the racking strength test and should be shown on the CSC plate

1PL (first party logistics)

Where the transport of cargo is arranged and performed either by the consignor (sender) or consignee (receiver) – cargo distribution is an internal process within either the consignor or consignee organisation

2PL (second party logistics)

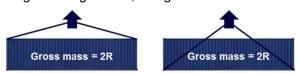
Where the transport of cargo is provided by a carrier – shipping line, rail operator, trucking company or inland waterway operator

2R

Superimposed test mass equivalent to twice the rating (maximum gross mass) of a container used

Example

Maximum gross = 30,480kg $2R = 2 \times 30,480$ kg Test based on lifting the container with a gross weight of 60,960kg





3PL (third party logistics)

Where a transport service provider to a consignee or consignor has a financial interest in part of the transport offering including added value services such as warehousing, terminal operations or simple manufacturing activities such as packaging or labelling – may be a major freight forwarder or courier company

45ft container

Container designed to carry high volume cargo has corner fittings in the 40ft and 45ft locations



4PL (fourth party logistics)

Where an independent and neutral lead logistics organisation, often working in a joint venture with a primary manufacturer, manages logistics within an entire supply chain

4th party logistics provider (lead logistics provider / LLP)

A 4PL level service where a logistics company manages the flows across a supply chain overseeing a number of 3PL providers – usually the LLP is a neutral company

53ft domestic container

Containers 53ft long commonly seen in North American and Australian domestic trades provides greater volumes for lightweight and bulky cargo



5PL (fifth party logistics)

Where an independent and neutral lead logistics organisation optimises a network of supply chains with a strong focus on a technological logistics solution usually including eBusiness



AAR (Association of American Railroads)

US freight rail industry body which prepares policy, undertakes research, sets standards and develops technology with a focus on safety and productivity

Above (on) deck

Where cargo such as containers is transported above the hatch covers (deck) of the ship exposed to the marine environment (e.g. wind and waves)

AC (average cost)

An economic term – calculated as the total cost (TC) divided by the quantity (Q) of units produced (AC = TC/Q)

Accounts receivable finance

Exporter obtains a loan from a bank based on legally enforceable rights to payment such as outstanding open account invoices

ACEP (Approved Continuous Examination Process)

Container examination scheme undertaken as part of normal operations - the first 5-year inspection and maximum 30-month interval between subsequent examinations still applies

ACS (Alameda Corridor Surcharge)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for using a 32km express rail link to / from the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, USA – managed by the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority

Act of god

An event caused by a natural force which is beyond the control of a person or company e.g. earthquake, flood, tsunami or volcanic eruption

Actual gross weight (gross weight)

The weight of a container including the container's tare weight, the weight of the cargo and any packaging or dunnage

Example

Actual gross weight = tare + payload 11,000kg = 2,800kg + 8,200kg

Actual net weight (actual payload / payload)

The combined weight of cargo and any securing devices / material (dunnage) used to protect the cargo during transport

Example

Actual net weight = actual gross weight - tare 8,200kg = 11,000kg - 2,800kg

Actual payload (actual net weight / payload)

The combined weight of cargo and any securing devices / material (dunnage) used to protect the cargo during transport

Example

Actual net weight = actual gross weight - tare 8,200kg = 11,000kg - 2,800kg

Actual time of arrival (ATA)

The actual date and time of arrival for a transport vehicle at a location e.g. the date and time when a ship arrived at a terminal

Actual time of departure (ATD)

The actual date and time of departure of a transport vehicle shown on a schedule e.g. when a ship departs a terminal

Actual total loss

Term in maritime law when the damage or cost of repair is equal to or exceeds the insured value of the ship or cargo – or when the ship and its cargo have been declared as missing at Lloyd's

Ad valorem

A customs tax or duty on cargo based on a percentage of the estimated value of the cargo

ADC (ambient distribution centre)

Warehouse where products which do not have to be chilled or frozen are received, stored and consolidated before being redistributed to retailer stores, wholesalers or direct to consumers

ADR (European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road)

Treaty relating to the transportation of dangerous goods by road, covering the packaging, labelling and handling of goods as well as the construction, equipment and operation of transport vehicles – as of 2019 it was ratified by 51 states primarily in Europe

ADR Tank Code

Four-digit alpha numeric code for tank containers defined by the ADR, detailing the container type, pressure level, openings and safety valves and devices

Advanced manifest filing fee

Fee charged for declaring cargo in advance which may be required in certain countries

AEO (Authorised Economic Operator)

Internationally recognised quality assurance that shows an organisation involved in international supply chains is secure and that their customs controls and procedures meet European Union standards – covers for example manufacturers, exporters, freight forwarders, warehouses, customs brokers, importers, carriers and terminal operators

Aft

At or near the stern (back) of a ship

AGV (automatic guided vehicle / auto-guided vehicle)

A self-powered vehicle controlled and navigated by computer which is able to carry an object such as a container

Air draft

The distance from the waterline to the highest point on a ship

Air waybill

Document issued by an airline as receipt for cargo detailing the contract of carriage – unlike a bill of lading it is not usually used as a document of title (proof of ownership)

Airtightness

Design of an object such as a container to limit air from entering or escaping from the object when it is sealed closed

Alameda Corridor Surcharge (ACS)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for using a 32km express rail link to / from the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, USA – managed by the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority

All-in freight rate

A freight rate where the cost of transport includes all additional fees associated with carriage – such as BAF and CAF surcharges

Allowable stacking load

Maximum weight of stacked containers that can be stacked on a single container at 1.8g

Ambient distribution centre (ADC)

Warehouse where products which do not have to be chilled or frozen are received, stored and consolidated before being redistributed to retailer stores, wholesalers or direct to consumers

Ambient temperature

Temperature of the external environment – it may vary with region and time of day / night

American National Standards Institute (ANSI)

Oversees the creation, issuing and use of standards in the USA - it also accredits and assesses organizations who assess conformance to standards

Amidships (midships)

The area towards the centre of a ship (halfway between the fore and aft)

ANSI (American National Standards Institute)

Oversees the creation, issuing and use of standards in the USA - it also accredits and assesses organizations who assess conformance to standards

Anti-trust

Legislation that prevents, controls or limits monopoly, oligopoly or collusion between companies which would control markets or fix prices

APERAK (application error & acknowledgement message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a messaging method to communicate acknowledgements and errors in EDI communications between trading partners

Application error & acknowledgement message (APERAK)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a messaging method to communicate acknowledgements and errors in EDI communications between trading partners

Approach channel

Designated navigational route for a ship to enter or leave a port

Approved Continuous Examination Process (ACEP)

Container examination scheme undertaken as part of normal operations - the first 5-year inspection and maximum 30-month interval between subsequent examinations still applies

Apron (quay / quayside)

Area between the container yard and the waterfront - used to support the loading and discharge of ships

Arrival notice message (IFTMAN)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message sent by a carrier to confirm the arrival of a consignment

ASC (automatic stacking crane)

Computerised yard crane overseen by a remote operator – typically two ASCs will work a block with interchange grids at each end (one dedicated to landside and the other to waterside moves)

Association of American Railroads (AAR)

US freight rail industry body which prepares policy, undertakes research, sets standards and develops technology with a focus on safety and productivity

ATA (actual time of arrival)

The actual date and time of arrival for a transport vehicle at a location e.g. the date and time when a ship arrived at a terminal

ATD (actual time of departure)

The actual date and time of departure of a transport vehicle shown on a schedule e.g. when a ship departs a terminal

Attach generator fee

Fee charged for attaching a genset to a reefer container

Authorised control officers

Person(s) designated under the Convention for Safe Containers with the power to stop containers from onward movement if they are thought to pose a risk to safety

Authorised Economic Operator (AEO)

Internationally recognised quality assurance that shows an organisation involved in international supply chains is secure and that their customs controls and procedures meet European Union standards – covers for example manufacturers, exporters, freight forwarders, warehouses, customs brokers, importers, carriers and terminal operators

Auto-guided vehicle (AGV / automatic guided vehicle)

A self-powered vehicle controlled and navigated by computer which is able to carry an object such as a container



Automated container recognition

A system which captures and reads a container number without the need for manual intervention – current systems are based on optical character recognition technology (OCR)

Automatic guided vehicle (AGV / auto-guided vehicle)

A self-powered vehicle controlled and navigated by computer which is able to carry an object such as a container

Automatic stacking crane (ASC)

Computerised yard crane overseen by a remote operator – typically two ASCs will work a block with interchange grids at each end (one dedicated to landside and the other to waterside moves)



Average cost (AC)

An economic term – calculated as the total cost (TC) divided by the quantity (Q) of units produced (AC = TC/Q)

Axle

Central shaft including wheels which is used in the motion of transport vehicles

Axle load (axle weight)

The weight (load) of a road or rail vehicle exerted by an axle on the road or rail track

Axle weight (axle load)

The weight (load) of a road or rail vehicle exerted by an axle on the road or rail track



B/L (bill of lading)

Document issued as a receipt for cargo being transported by sea detailing the contract of carriage which also acts as a document of title (proof of ownership) – may be negotiable or nonnegotiable [see Bill of lading for related terms]

Backreach

Maximum distance behind the back legs of a crane which can be accessed by the crane to lift or lower objects



BAF (bunker adjustment factor / fuel adjustment factor / FAF)

A surcharge added to a freight rate to account for fluctuating fuel costs

BAPLIE (bay plan message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners detailing the stowage plan for a transport vehicle (ship) – includes container id, size type code, weight, stowage location, POL/POD and responsible party

BAPLTE (bay plan or stowage plan total numbers message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for message between trading partners summarising the number of each type of container and other cargo or equipment stowed on a ship

Bar

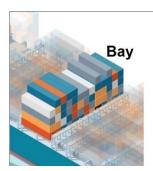
Metric unit of pressure or stress (1 bar = 100,000Pa) - average outside pressure at sealevel is about 101,000kPa, some tank containers are rated above 10bar (see also kPa)

Barge quay crane

A quay crane designed to work barges – it is of relatively low height and able to travel loaded along the quay

Bay

Cross-sectional area of a ship or yard block used for stowing containers – part of the slot location referencing system





Bay plan

Created as part of the stowage planning process of container ships - details the location of individual containers for loading and unloading purposes

Bay plan message (BAPLIE)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners detailing the stowage plan for a transport vehicle (ship) – includes container id, size type code, weight, stowage location, POL/POD and responsible party

Bay plan or stowage plan total numbers message (BAPLTE)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for message between trading partners summarising the number of each type of container and other cargo or equipment stowed on a ship

BCO (beneficial cargo owner)

Organisation in the country of import who will take actual possession of the cargo

Beam

A primary (main) horizontal steel girder that carries (supports) loads and forms part of a larger structure, such as a crane

Beam overall (BOA)

The width of a ship at its widest point

Beam to Length Ratio (Length to Beam ratio)

Relationship between the width (BOA) and length (LOA) of a ship which influences its stability, seakeeping abilities and fuel performance – most container ships are 1 meter in width to about 7m in length

Bearer bill of lading

A bill of lading which states the cargo is to be delivered to whoever possesses the bill of lading

Below (under) deck

Where cargo such as containers is transported below the hatch covers (deck) of a ship where it is protected from the environment (e.g. wind and waves)

Beneficial cargo owner (BCO)

Organisation in the country of import who will take actual possession of the cargo

BERMAN (berth management message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a carrier requesting a berth for a vessel from whoever manages berth reservations for the terminal

Berth

A location along a quay where a ship can moor, often given a name or referencing method for easy identification

Berth (dock) dues

Fee charged by a port authority for the costs related to berthing a ship and the use of a berth during its port call – may include providing the quay wall and apron as well as dredging the berth

Berth management message (BERMAN)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a carrier requesting a berth for a vessel from whoever manages berth reservations for the terminal

Berthing

The process of moving a ship alongside and securing it to the quay in a port

Berthing (mooring) fee

Fee charged for carrying out the tying up of a ship – often based on the size of the ship and may include the unmooring (unberthing) of a ship

Berthing direction

The direction of a ship moored alongside a quay described in terms of either port side berthing or starboard side berthing

Berthing port side

When a ship berths with it port (left-hand) side closest to the quay wall

Berthing starboard side

When a ship berths with it starboard (right-hand) side closest to the quay wall

Between the legs

Area between the front and back legs of a crane

BIC (International Container Bureau)

Non-governmental organisation for groups interested in containerisation and intermodal transport

BIC code (owner code)

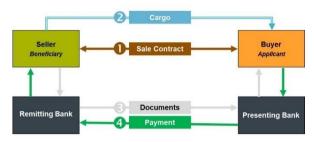
3-digit alpha code managed by BIC for the financial owner or party with exclusive usage rights for a container

Bilateral trade (countertrade)

Exporter receives payment in the form of goods or services instead of money – usually associated with contracts with Sovereign States

Bill of exchange (documentary credit / documentary collection)

Payment method where the exporter sends documents via a remitting bank to a collecting bank in the import country which delivers them to the importer for payment on sight or x days after acceptance



Bill of lading (B/L)

Document issued as a receipt for cargo being transported by sea detailing the contract of carriage which also acts as a document of title (proof of ownership) – may be negotiable or non-negotiable

Related terms

- Bearer bill of lading
- · Charter party bill of lading
- Claused (dirty / foul / unclean) bill of lading
- Clean bill of lading
- Combined transport (multimodal) bill of lading
- Container bill of lading
- Direct bill of lading
- Dirty (claused / foul / unclean) bill of lading
- Foul (claused / dirty / unclean) bill of lading
- Freight forwarder (house) bill of lading
- Homeward bill of lading
- House (freight forwarder) bill of lading
- Liner bill of lading
- Master bill of lading
- Multimodal (combined transport) bill of lading
- Negotiable bill of lading

- Non-negotiable bill of lading
- Ocean (port to port) bill of lading
- Onboard (shipped) bill of lading
- Open bill of lading
- Order bill of lading
- · Outward bill of lading
- Port to port (ocean) bill of lading
- Received bill of lading
- Shipped (onboard) bill of lading
- Stale bill of lading
- Switch bill of lading
- Through bill of lading
- Unclean (claused / dirty / foul) bill of lading

Bill of lading amendment fee

Fee charged by the carrier to the consignor for amending a bill of lading

Bill of lading fee

Fee charged by the carrier to the consignor for preparing a bill of lading

Bi-modal crane

Crane that is capable of servicing two inland transport modes

Blank (skipped / void) sailing (voyage)

A scheduled voyage or entire rotation that is withdrawn by a shipping line – usually to reduce capacity on the trade in response to a lack of demand

Blank (skipped / void) voyage (sailing)

A scheduled voyage or entire rotation that is withdrawn by a shipping line – usually to reduce capacity on the trade in response to a lack of demand

Block

Area where containers are stowed – part of the slot location referencing system in a yard

Block stowage

The stacking together of container of a similar type and characteristics - for example empty containers of the same size type and owner

Block train

Train made up of many wagons which carry a single cargo type such as containers, coal or cars from the same point of origin to the same destination

BOA (beam overall)

The width of a ship at its widest point

Bobtail

Tractor part of an external truck and is used to refer to an articulated truck in North America that is not connected to a trailer (chassis)

Bolt cutters

A tool that is used for cutting chains, padlocks, bolts and wire – often used to remove a container seal to allow cargo to be unstuffed



Bombcart (terminal chassis / terminal trailer)

Rubber tyred platform used to move cargo which is designed to be pulled by a terminal tractor – it is not licenced for used on the national road network

Bonded warehouse

A secure building or area where cargo is stored without payment of customs duty – the cargo is not in free circulation within the country

Booking cancellation fee

Fee charged by a carrier if a confirmed booking is cancelled by a consignor

Booking confirmation message (IFTMBC)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message sent by carrier accepting, rejecting, pending a confirmed booking request by a shipper – sent in response to a IFTMBF message

Boom

An arm like structure to which a lifting device such as a spreader or hook is attached – it provides a crane's horizontal outreach when lifting an object

Boom down

When the boom of a quay crane is in its horizontal working position

Boom up

When the boom of a quay crane is raised into a non-working position to prevent collisions with the ship

Bottom end rail

Steel rail at the bottom of the front or back of a container – where doors are present it is known as the door sill

Bottom side rails

Longitudinal rails at the bottom of a container joining bottom corner fittings

Bottom-end

Steel rail at the base of the front or back of a container – its design will be impacted by the presence of doors

Braking power

The amount of traction created by a train locomotive, braking car or wagons with braking capacity to stop a moving train

Breakbulk cargo

Cargo shipped as separate packages of all shapes, sizes and weights which have to be stowed individually, not in bulk or unitised

Bridge team

Members of a ship's crew who work in the ship's bridge responsible for the safe navigation and operation of the ship

British Standards Institute (BSI)

Body established in 1901 to develop and promote standards in the UK and represents the UK at both a European level and at the ISO

BSI (British Standards Institute)

Body established in 1901 to develop and promote standards in the UK and represents the UK at both a European level and at the ISO

BSI/PAS 1008:2016

Informal standard issued by the British Standards Institute on single-use flexitanks specifying materials, loading/discharge valves, restraining, marking and testing methods

Bundle

Multiple empty platform containers are secured together to allow them to be lifted and transported as a single unit

Bundling fee

Fee charged for securing several empty flat rack or platform containers together into a single bundle

Bunker adjustment factor (BAF / fuel adjustment factor / FAF)

A surcharge added to a freight rate to account for fluctuating fuel costs

Bunker fuel

Term used for marine fuel used by ships

C

C₂H₄ (ethylene)

This is a naturally occurring ripening hormone its presence can influence ripening of fruit and vegetables

Cab (cabin)

Enclosed location on a crane that protects the operator (driver) controlling the cranes movement

Cabin (cab)

Enclosed location on a crane that protects the operator (driver) controlling the cranes movement

Cabotage

Regulatory restrictions on foreign carriers providing transport services between two locations within the same country e.g. the Jones Act (1920) in the USA

CAF (currency adjustment factor)

A surcharge added to a freight rate to account for changes in foreign currency exchange rates – usually based on the US dollar

Calcutta Conference (1875)

A shipping conference established in 1875 to regulate tea trade to the UK which was brought about by the resulting over supply of shipping caused by the opening of the Suez Canal – it was the first example of a shipping conference

CALINF (call information (vessel) message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners sent by a carrier to a terminal to provide the expected arrival date and time of a ship and expected cargo operations – may include vessel dimensions and draught

Call information (vessel) message (CALINF)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners sent by a carrier to a terminal to provide the expected arrival date and time of a ship and expected cargo operations – may include vessel dimensions and draught

Canal

Man-made waterway allowing ships or barges to sail inland or to connect two bodies of water

Cantilever beam

A beam that extends beyond one or both sides of a cranes structure which allows it to perform lifts beyond its legs – an example of this is the cRMG

Cantilever rail mounted gantry crane (cRMG)

Type of rail mounted gantry crane (RMG) that has a cantilever arm on one or both sides that services vehicles outside its legs



Carbon dioxide (CO₂)

This is a colourless odourless gas which is formed as a result of respiration

Cargo (freight) insurance

Insurance providing cover for cargo against risk, physical loss or damage during shipment by land, sea or air – many different types exist which may be specific to different transport modes

Cargo (wharfage) dues

A fee charged by a port authority for cargo imported or exported from a port to cover the cost of port infrastructure – may be an ad valorem based fee

Cargo booking

The process of entering into a contract of carriage between a shipper and a carrier to transport cargo

Cargo inspection

The process of verifying the quality, quantity and condition of cargo which may be performed before, during or after shipment

Cargo movement

The movement of cargo as a result of transportation or handling forces e.g. acceleration, deceleration, rolling, swaying and pitching

Cargo securing manual

Manual carried by all ships detailing cargo stowage and lashing - it must be approved by a classification society under SOLAS regulations

Cargo supervision company

A company that provides inspection, verification, sampling and testing services of goods, and issues Certificates of Analysis, Quality and Inspection

Cargo survey

An inspection of the cargo carried out to confirm its quantity, quality and condition

Cargo weight distribution

Distribution of cargo weight over the length and width of an object (e.g. truck or container) - no more than 60% of cargo weight should be concentrated in one half of a container's length

Example

Payload = 12,000kg Tare = 2,000kg Gross weight = 14,000kg

Cargo (payload) distribution 60% of 12,000kg = 7,200kg 40% of 12,000kg = 4,800kg

Carriage and insurance paid to (CIP)

Contract of sale where the seller pays for moving goods to the destination but from the time the goods are transferred to the first carrier the buyer takes all the risks of loss or damage although the seller purchases the cargo insurance – Incoterm

Carriage paid to (CPT)

Contract of sale where the seller pays for moving goods to the destination but from the time the goods are transferred to the first carrier the buyer takes all the risks of loss or damage – Incoterm

Carrier

An organisation providing transportation services e.g. shipping line, airline, road haulier, rail or courier company

Carrier haulage

Where a shipping line provides or arranges the inland haulage of a container as part of the contract of carriage

Cash in advance

Buyer of goods agrees to make payment to an exporter before goods are shipped

CBER (consortia block exemption regulation)

European Union legislation exempting container shipping line alliances from anti-trust regulation subject to certain conditions

CCFI (China export containerized freight index)

An index of spot freight rates including maritime related surcharges based on container shipments from 10 ports in China to destinations on 12 trade lanes

CCIA (China Container Industry Association)

Trade association for Chinese companies involved in the manufacture of containers providing an industry forum for communications, research and representation to government

CDC (chilled distribution centre)

Warehouse where products which have to be maintained at temperatures between -1oC to +18oC are received, stored and consolidated before being redistributed to retailer stores, wholesalers or direct to consumers

Ceiling and floor service contract

A service contract freight rate method which is subject to change when the spot market exceeds a set minimum or maximum freight rate

Cell guide

A vertical steel girder of a shape designed to guide containers when (un)loading a ship and to assist container stability during a voyage

CEN (European Committee for Standardization)

An association of 33 European national standardisation bodies - responsible for developing and defining voluntary standards at a European level

Centreline

Vertical line running the length of a ship from the fore to the aft

Certificate of analysis (inspection / quality)

A document that confirms specific details of goods prior to shipment – usually issued by an independent cargo supervision company

Certificate of free sale

A document that confirms goods comply with all regulations in the exporting country – may be used instead of a Certificate of Quality

Certificate of inspection (analysis / quality)

A document that confirms specific details of goods prior to shipment – usually issued by an independent cargo supervision company

Certificate of origin

A document often issued by a Chamber of Commerce or Customs Authority in the export country confirming the country of origin of the goods

Certificate of quality (analysis / inspection)

A document that confirms specific details of goods prior to shipment – usually issued by an independent cargo supervision company

Certified invoice

Invoice stamped by a Chamber of Commerce prior to shipment – which may be required under the terms of a letter of credit

CFR (cost and freight)

Contract of sale where the seller clears the goods for export and pays the cost of transport to the destination, the buyer takes all risk of loss or damage – Incoterm

CFS (container freight station)

Area within a terminal, where break bulk cargo is stuffed / unstuffed from containers and additional activities such as cargo surveys may be carried out

Chain lashing

Metal chains used to secure containers and other cargo to each other or to securing sockets on a ship

Charter party bill of lading

A bill of lading that references a charter party contract for the hire of a ship – not used in container shipping

Chassis (trailer)

General term for wheeled vehicles without power which provides a platform on which cargo can be transported – examples include road trailers, roll trailers and terminal trailers



Chassis system

Container handling system based on the movement and storage of containers loaded on a road licensed trailer

Chassis usage (utilization) fee

A surcharge added to a freight rate at some ports in the USA if the consignor or consignee uses a chassis under the control of a shipping line for inland transportation

Chassis utilization (usage) fee

A surcharge added to a freight rate at some ports in the USA if the consignor or consignee uses a chassis under the control of a shipping line for inland transportation

Check digit

Calculated number in a bar code or container number which allows an algorithm to verify the full number has been captured correctly

Chilled

Food stored at temperatures which are between - 1oC to +18oC

Chilled distribution centre (CDC)

Warehouse where products which have to be maintained at temperatures between -1oC to +18oC are received, stored and consolidated before being redistributed to retailer stores, wholesalers or direct to consumers

China Container Industry Association (CCIA)

Trade association for Chinese companies involved in the manufacture of containers providing an industry forum for communications, research and representation to government

China export containerized freight index (CCFI)

An index of spot freight rates including maritime related surcharges based on container shipments from 10 ports in China to destinations on 12 trade lanes

CIF (cost insurance and freight)

Contract of sale where the seller clears the goods for export, pays the costs of transport to the port of destination and purchases the cargo insurance, the buyer takes all risks of loss or damage – Incoterm

CIM / SMGS consignment note

Document that covers the different legal regimes of the CIM & SMGS issued as receipt for cargo by a rail company operating Eurasian services detailing standard transport and liability obligations – unlike a bill of lading it is not a document of title

CIM consignment note

Document issued as receipt for cargo by a rail company operating in Europe, the Maghreb and the Middle East detailing standard transport and liability obligations – unlike a bill of lading it is not a document of title

CIP (carriage and insurance paid to)

Contract of sale where the seller pays for moving goods to the destination but from the time the goods are transferred to the first carrier the buyer takes all the risks of loss or damage although the seller purchases the cargo insurance – Incoterm

Citrus

A tree native to Asia which includes or orange, lemon, lime and grapefruit which is widely commercially grown in warm regions

Classification (marshalling) yard

A railway yard where railway wagons are sorted and organised into train sets

Classification society

Organisation responsible for the inspection and approval of design & construction of ships and containers

Claused (dirty / foul / unclean) bill of lading

Bill of lading that has text referring to any adverse condition of the cargo e.g. may state damage such as "cargo received wet"

Clean bill of lading

Bill of lading that has no text referring to any adverse condition of the cargo – may be stamped "clean onboard"

Climacteric fruit

Types of fruit that can ripen after picking, after picking their ripening process can often be delayed and managed to lengthen their post-harvest shelf life

Closed container

Similar to a general purpose container but for cargo requiring ventilation – this term is no longer in use

Cloverleaf socket (star lashing fitting)

A socket on the deck of a ship in the shape of a star used to insert lashing and securing devices

CMNI transport document

Document issued as receipt for cargo by a barge company operating on European waterways detailing standard transport and liability obligations – may be similar in form to a bill of lading or other types of consignment note

CMR (road consignment) note

Document issued as receipt for cargo by a road haulage company detailing standard transport and liability obligations – unlike a bill of lading it is not used as a document of title (proof of ownership)

CO₂ (carbon dioxide)

This is a colourless odourless gas which is formed as a result of respiration

COA (Container Owners Association)

An organisation given the responsibility by a government to develop and promote national industry standards – they also represent their countries on regional and global standards committees such as the ISO

COARRI (container discharge or load report message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message by a terminal to a carrier or other party confirming containers, other cargo or equipment has been discharged, loaded, shifted or restowed

CODECO (container gate in or gate out report message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners confirming a container has been delivered or picked up by an inland carrier – also used to report internal terminal moves and status changes such as damage or repair

COEDOR (container stock report message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners used by a terminal or depot to provide details of containers in their care

COHAOR (special handling order message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners to order handling services such as moving a container to a customs examination area, container fumigation or cleaning area

Coil carrier container

Container designed for the transport of steel coils - includes cradles to hold the steel coils in place

Cold (reefer) supply chain

The planning, transport and storage of temperature-sensitive products along a supply chain

Cold treatment

The reduction in shipping temperature to a predefined level for a certain number of days, to kill insects and some fungus - an alternative to fumigation

Combined transport

Movement of goods where a passive transport means is carried by another active means of transport – e.g. a road trailer transported on a rail wagon

Combined transport (multimodal) bill of lading

Bill of lading covering more than one mode of transport where the carrier has responsibility from the inland place of receipt to the inland place of delivery

Commercial invoice

Invoice issued after an actual shipment has been made as per a sales contract —which is usually used by Customs to calculate any duties or taxes payable

Common (public) carrier

Organisation providing regular scheduled transport services to the public without discrimination – common carriers have a special status in law

Competent person

Individual with the necessary skills to assess the structural condition of a container

Con-air (port hole) container

One of the first types of reefer container, that were connected to on-board refrigeration systems using air ducts

Concession fee

A long term rental arrangement fee paid by a terminal operator to a port authority for the use of land and infrastructure used to operate a terminal in a port

Cone (cone fitting / stacking cone)

A conical metal device inserted into corner fittings to help secure stacked containers - they may be non-locking or have a pin lock or twist lock mechanism.

Cone fitting (cone / stacking cone)

A conical metal device inserted into corner fittings to help secure stacked containers - they may be non-locking or have a pin lock or twist lock mechanism.

Congestion (port congestion) surcharge

A surcharge added to a freight rate for additional costs incurred by ships calling at ports suffering from excessive operational delays in servicing ships – may be due issues such as port worker strikes, bad weather, poor infrastructure or inadequate terminal capacity

Connectivity

A measure of transport network density and the directness of links between locations – a well connected location has many direct or short links to numerous other locations

ConRo

A ship that has areas with cell guides to carry containers and other areas with decks for roll-on roll-off cargo

Conservancy dues

Fee charged to the operator of a ship by a port authority to cover the costs of facilities and services required to ensure the safe navigation of ships within the approaches to the port e.g. dredging, navigational aids, vessel traffic services and pollution control

Consignee

Organisation in a contract of carriage (transport) who receives the cargo from a consignor

Consignment

A quantity of goods which are grouped together by a consignor and sent to a consignee

Consignment finance

Exporter is paid for cargo when the goods have been received and sold by an importer e.g. when an exporter sends goods to a foreign distributor

Consignor

Organisation in a contract of carriage (transport) who sends the cargo to a consignee

Consolidation (groupage)

Consignments from different consignors destined for different consignees are combined into one container – known as a less than container load (LCL)

Consortia

An agreement or set of agreements between container shipping lines with the objective of supplying jointly organised services which may include combined marketing and sales

Consortia block exemption regulation (CBER)

European Union legislation exempting container shipping line alliances from anti-trust regulation subject to certain conditions

Constructive total loss

Term in maritime law insurance where the insured ship is abandoned but has not actually perished but is in such a position as to make its total destruction highly imminent and probable

Consular invoice

Invoice issued or stamped by the consulate of the importing country in the country of export – provides a pre-approval that cargo can be imported

Container announcement message (COPARN)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners to make available, accept, release or announce the imminent arrival of an empty container – also used for on-hire and off-hire requests and can be used for full containers

Container attachment (side lift spreader)

A term sometimes used when referring to the spreader device of a top pick or empty handler

Container back

The end of the container where the door or other access point is located

Container bill of lading

Bill of lading that gives information about the cargo being shipped in a container

Container cleaning (sweeping) fee

Fee charged for cleaning a container after it has been returned empty by a shipper

Container discharge or load report message (COARRI)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message by a terminal to a carrier or other party confirming containers, other cargo or equipment has been discharged, loaded, shifted or restowed

Container discharge or loading order message (COPRAR)

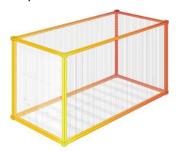
UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message by a carrier to a terminal to load or discharge containers, cargo or equipment to or from a ship – may include shift and restow orders

Container door direction

Direction that the container doors face when stowed in a yard, on a ship or other transport mode

Container frame

Skeletal frame of a container consisting of end frames and top and bottom side rails



Container freight station (CFS)

Area within a terminal, where break bulk cargo is stuffed / unstuffed from containers and additional activities such as cargo surveys may be carried out

Container front

The end of the container without a door or other access point

Container fumigation fee

Fee charged for fumigating a container

Container gate in or gate out report message (CODECO)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners confirming a container has been delivered or picked up by an inland carrier – also used to report internal terminal moves and status changes such as damage or repair

Container inspection

Examination of a container to identify any damage, e.g. when a container enters or leaves a terminal

Container left

The left side of a container when looking into the container from the end with the door

Container manifest

Document showing the contents of a container, its place of origin and destination

Container number

Unique identifier for every container - made up of owner code, equipment type code, serial number and check digit

Container Owners Association (COA)

An organisation given the responsibility by a government to develop and promote national industry standards – they also represent their countries on regional and global standards committees such as the ISO

Container packing certificate

Document issued by the party stuffing a container confirming goods have been packed and stuffed correctly into the container – specifically required for dangerous goods

Container pre-notification message (COPINO)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners to inform them in advance that they will deliver or pickup a container

Container release order message (COREOR)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners to release a full container to a named party or their representative who may then arrange its onward movement – also used for empty containers

Container right

The right side of a container when looking into the container from the end with the door

Container seal fee

Fee charged for placing a seal on a container

Container status

Descriptions used to describe the current usage and state of a container for example, transhipment, empty, import, export, transit, inbound, outbound

Container stock report message (COEDOR)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners used by a terminal or depot to provide details of containers in their care

Container sweeping (cleaning) fee

Fee charged for cleaning a container after it has been returned empty by a shipper

Container washing

The cleaning of a container after use or before reuse

Container yard (yard)

The location in a terminal where containers are stored whilst waiting onward movement

Containerised cargo

Cargo that is stuffed into a container for shipment

Contract of carriage

A contract between the carrier of goods and the consignor or consignee – defines the rights, duties and liabilities of the parties*

Contract of carriage

A legal agreement between the carrier of goods and the consignor (sender) and consignee (receiver) – an example would be a bill of lading

Control tower

A central information hub that co-ordinates data across a supply chain which typically uses event-based decisions to optimise transport planning – the computer system is supported by a team of specialist staff to oversee decisions

Controlled atmosphere shipping

Use of technology to manage the atmosphere within a container to improve the shipping of perishable cargo

Convention for Safe Containers (CSC)

IMO convention adopted in 1972 focused on safety in the transport and handling of containers to facilitate international transport

COPARN (container announcement message)

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COREOR (container release order message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners to release a full container to a named party or their representative who may then arrange its onward movement – also used for empty containers

Corner casting (fitting)

The fitting located at each corner of a container used to secure the container for lifting, during transport or storage

Corner fitting (casting)

The fitting located at each corner of a container used to secure the container for lifting, during transport or storage

Corrosive

A substance that will damage or destroy other substances it comes into contact with by causing a chemical reaction – IMDG Class 8

Cost and freight (CFR)

Contract of sale where the seller clears the goods for export and pays the cost of transport to the destination, the buyer takes all risk of loss or damage – Incoterm

Cost insurance and freight (CIF)

Contract of sale where the seller clears the goods for export, pays the costs of transport to the port of destination and purchases the cargo insurance, the buyer takes all risks of loss or damage – Incoterm

COSTCO (stuffing or stripping confirmation message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners confirming an LCL container has been stuffed or unstuffed

COSTOR (stuffing or stripping order message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners ordering the stuffing or unstuffing of an LCL container

Countertrade (bilateral trade)

Exporter receives payment in the form of goods or services instead of money – usually associated with contracts with Sovereign States

Counterweight

A weight positioned at the rear of a crane to create a downward force to offset (counter) a lifted load providing balance and stability

Country code

2 or 3-digit code found on old containers alongside the container number to show its country of ownership - this is no longer used on modern containers

Courier waybill

Document issued by an international courier company as receipt for cargo detailing the contract of carriage – unlike a bill of lading it is not used as a document of title (proof of ownership)

CPT (carriage paid to)

Contract of sale where the seller pays for moving goods to the destination but from the time the goods are transferred to the first carrier the buyer takes all the risks of loss or damage – Incoterm

Crane outrigger (outrigger)

Leg type devices which provide a solid platform for a mobile crane to work safely

Crane tower (tower)

Vertical structure of a crane from which the boom is attached

cRMG (cantilever rail mounted gantry crane)

Type of rail mounted gantry crane (RMG) that has a cantilever arm on one or both sides that services vehicles outside its legs

Cross (traverse) member

Steel rail providing strength across the width of an object (e.g. container)

Cross-docking

The process of transferring cargo directly from multiple transport vehicles or containers to other transport vehicles or containers without the need for storage

Cryogenic liquids

Gases that have become liquid at very low temperatures and under pressure - it is a very efficient way of transporting gases which otherwise would require very large volumes

CSC (Convention for safe containers)

IMO convention adopted in 1972 focused on safety in the transport and handling of containers to facilitate international transport

CSC examination

5 years after manufacture for the first inspection and within every subsequent 30 months thereafter managed under PES or ACEP

CSC plate (Safety Approval Plate)

Permanent metal plaque attached to a container to show it meets the requirements of the CSC convention and has been regularly inspected and maintained

Cubic capacity

Volume expressed in cubic units - calculated by multiplying the length x width x height of the transport space

Currency adjustment factor (CAF)

A surcharge added to a freight rate to account for changes in foreign currency exchange rates – usually based on the US dollar

CUSCAR (customs cargo report message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a carrier to a Customs Authority to satisfy customs cargo reporting requirements – includes entry of the ship manifest

CUSDEC (customs declaration message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a party entering customs declaration to a Customs Authority to fulfil requirements of declaring goods for import, export or transit – may be used between shippers and between customs authorities

CUSEXP (customs express consignment declaration message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a party entering a customs declaration to a Customs Authority fulfilling three requirements (1) conveyance report, (2) cargo report and (3) customs declaration

CUSPED (periodic customs declaration message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a party entering customs declaration to a Customs Authority to satisfy the periodic declaration of goods for import or export – may be used between shippers and between customs authorities

CUSREP (customs conveyance report message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a carrier to a Customs Authority to satisfy customs reporting requirements of a ship, barge, airplane, train or truck carrying cargo – allows pre-arrival, arrival and departure notification

CUSRES (customs response message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a Customs Authority to the sender of customs data – may be used to give customs clearance of goods

Customs

Government organisation responsible for managing imports and exports and collecting duties and taxes payable on goods

Customs (ship) manifest

Document required by Customs Authorities detailing all the cargo (containers) on a ship, its crew and passengers

Customs Authority

Government organisation responsible for collecting revenue, publishing trade statistics, checking trade documents, performing the physical examination of exports and imports and protecting a country's external borders from illegal activities

Customs broker (customs clearance agent / customs house agent)

Acts on behalf of an exporter or importer to ensure compliance with customs regulations and to submit correct information and documents for customs clearance during the export or import process

Customs cargo report message (CUSCAR)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a carrier to a Customs Authority to satisfy customs cargo reporting requirements – includes entry of the ship manifest

Customs clearance

Customs permission for goods to be imported or exported from a country – requires the submission of required documentation and if necessary a physical examination of the goods and payment of any duties

Customs clearance agent (customs broker / customs house agent)

Acts on behalf of an exporter or importer to ensure compliance with customs regulations and to submit correct information and documents for customs clearance during the export or import process

Customs clearance fee

Fee charged by a Customs Broker for preparing and submitting documents to complete customs clearance

Customs control

Goods which are not in free circulation within a country whose storage and onward movement is subject to customs regulations

Customs conveyance report message (CUSREP)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a carrier to a Customs Authority to satisfy customs reporting requirements of a ship, barge, airplane, train or truck carrying cargo – allows pre-arrival, arrival and departure notification

Customs declaration message (CUSDEC)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a party entering customs declaration to a Customs Authority to fulfil requirements of declaring goods for import, export or transit – may be used between shippers and between customs authorities

Customs duty

Duty on exports or imports charged by the Customs Authority

Customs express consignment declaration message (CUSEXP)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a party entering a customs declaration to a Customs Authority fulfilling three requirements (1) conveyance report, (2) cargo report and (3) customs declaration

Customs house agent (customs broker / customs clearance agent)

Acts on behalf of an exporter or importer to ensure compliance with customs regulations and to submit correct information and documents for customs clearance during the export or import process

Customs invoice

Invoice issued by a seller in a format prescribed by some importing country's Customs Authority e.g. USA, Canada and Australia

Customs processing fee

Fee charged by a Customs Authority for performing customs clearance

Customs response message (CUSRES)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a Customs Authority to the sender of customs data – may be used to give customs clearance of goods

Cut-off time

The published date and time by which cargo (containers) must be delivered to a terminal to be accepted for loading onto a scheduled transport service

D

D/O (delivery order)

A document issued by the carrier instructing the cargo detailed on a bill of lading to be released to the consignee or their representative – it is required to clear import customs and is the end of the contract of carriage

Dangerous (hazardous) cargo

Cargo that has the potential to harm people, property or the environment directly or indirectly

Dangerous cargo list message (IFTIAG)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message detailing a list of dangerous cargo

Dangerous goods declaration (DGD) / Dangerous goods note (DGN)

Document issued by the consignor stating that dangerous goods have been classified and declared correctly

Dangerous goods note (DGN) / Dangerous goods declaration (DGD)

Document issued by the consignor stating that dangerous goods have been classified and declared correctly

Dangerous goods notification message (IFTDGN)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from the party responsible for declaring dangerous goods to the local authority at a port responsible for checking dangerous cargo

DAP (delivered at place)

Contract of sale where the seller delivers goods and makes them available to the buyer ready for unloading, the seller takes all the risks of transport – Incoterm

DAT (delivered at terminal)

Contract of sale where the seller delivers goods and unloads them ready for the buyer at a named terminal (quay, warehouse, yard or other terminal) and the seller takes all the risks of transport – Incoterm

DC (distribution centre)

Warehouse where products are collected, stored and consolidated before being redistributed to retailer stores, wholesalers or direct to consumers

DC (distribution centre)

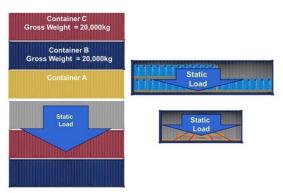
Warehouse where products are collected, stored and consolidated before being redistributed to retailer stores, wholesalers or direct to consumers

DDP (delivered duty paid)

Contract of sale where the seller delivers goods cleared for import to the buyer, the seller pays all costs and takes the risk of transport including customs duties and taxes – Incoterm

Dead (static) load

Load exerted on an object (such as the yard pavement) which is constant over time – e.g. the weight of a stack of containers in a yard



Deadweight tonnage (DWT)

Maximum weight a ship can carry – including cargo (containers), fuel, fresh water, other provisions and people

Decal

A durable sticker such as the one used under the CSC Periodic Examination Scheme to show the container's next examination date

Deep sea

Cargo shipped by sea across an ocean, e.g. Pacific, Atlantic or Indian oceans - deep sea vessels are typically large in size to achieve economies of scale

Deferred loyalty (rebate) system

A loyalty scheme payment by a shipping line to a shipper for exclusively using ships belonging to a shipping conference repaid to a shipper 3 to 6 months after a shipment if the shipper continues to be loyal to the shipping conference

Deferred rebate (loyalty) system

A loyalty scheme payment by a shipping line to a shipper for exclusively using ships belonging to a shipping conference repaid to a shipper 3 to 6 months after a shipment if the shipper continues to be loyal to the shipping conference

Deformation (strain)

Distortion of an object resulting from stress - the change may be temporary and the object returns to its original state or it may be permanent

Dehydration

The loss or removal of water from an object

Delivered at place (DAP)

Contract of sale where the seller delivers goods and makes them available to the buyer ready for unloading, the seller takes all the risks of transport – Incoterm

Delivered at terminal (DAT)

Contract of sale where the seller delivers goods and unloads them ready for the buyer at a named terminal (quay, warehouse, yard or other terminal) and the seller takes all the risks of transport – Incoterm

Delivered duty paid (DDP)

Contract of sale where the seller delivers goods cleared for import to the buyer, the seller pays all costs and takes the risk of transport including customs duties and taxes – Incoterm

Delivery

Operations involved in releasing an inbound container from a terminal to a truck, train or barge

Delivery (on-carriage) fee

Fee charged for the on-carriage of a container to its final destination

Delivery order (D/O)

A document issued by the carrier instructing the cargo detailed on a bill of lading to be released to the consignee or their representative – it is required to clear import customs and is the end of the contract of carriage

Demurrage fee

A per day cost charged to a shipper for storing a loaded container beyond an agreed free period

Despatch advice

Document issued by the consignor to the consignee confirming goods are ready to be shipped

DESTIM (equipment damage or repair estimate message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners used by a container repair company to provide details of container damage or a cost estimate for repair

Detention fee

A per day cost charged to a shipper for delaying the return of an empty container beyond an agreed free period

Devanning (outturn / stripping / unstuffing)

The act of unloading cargo from a container

DGD (dangerous goods declaration) / DGN (dangerous goods note)

Document issued by the consignor stating that dangerous goods have been classified and declared correctly

DGN (dangerous goods note) / DGD (dangerous goods declaration)

Document issued by the consignor stating that dangerous goods have been classified and declared correctly

Direct bill of lading

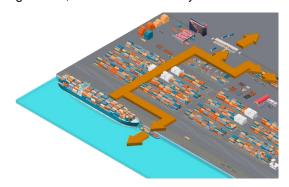
Bill of lading where the cargo is loaded at the port of origin and discharged at the final port of destination by the same vessel – no transhipment is expected although a clause may allow the carrier to tranship the cargo

Direct call

The movement of cargo from its port of origin to its final port of destination by means of a single ship without the use of transhipment

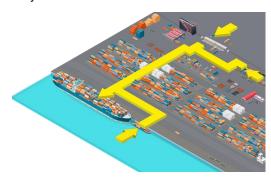
Direct delivery

A container which is discharged from a ship and taken directly to the gate, rail terminal or barge, this is typically due to the nature of the cargo e.g. high value, armaments or heavy lift



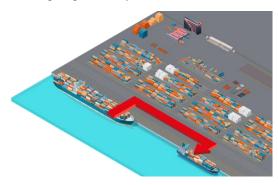
Direct receipt

A container which is taken directly from the gate, rail terminal or barge to the quayside and loaded onto a waiting ship, this is typically due to the nature of the cargo e.g. high value, armaments or heavy lift.



Direct transhipment

Transhipment of a full or empty container between two ships berthed at the same time without going via the yard



Dirty (claused / foul / unclean) bill of lading

Bill of lading that has text referring to any adverse condition of the cargo e.g. may state damage such as "cargo received wet"

Discharge list

Document listing the details of the containers (cargo) to be discharged from a ship during a port call

Discharge report

Document confirming the details of the containers (cargo) discharged from a ship during a port call

Diseconomies of scale

Where the average cost of a unit increases when the number of units produced increases

Distillate fuel oil

A petroleum fuel produced in conventional refinement operations – usually from crude oil

Distribution centre (DC)

Warehouse where products are collected, stored and consolidated before being redistributed to retailer stores, wholesalers or direct to consumers

Distribution centre (DC)

Warehouse where products are collected, stored and consolidated before being redistributed to retailer stores, wholesalers or direct to consumers

Dock (berth) dues

Fee charged by a port authority for the costs related to berthing a ship and the use of a berth during its port call – may include providing the quay wall and apron as well as dredging the berth

Dock (warehouse) receipt

Document confirming goods have been received at a terminal or warehouse and are ready for transport – used where the seller is not responsible for transporting the goods to the final destination

Documentary collection (bill of exchange / documentary credit)

Payment method where the exporter sends documents via a remitting bank to a collecting bank in the import country which delivers them to the importer for payment on sight or x days after acceptance

Documentary credit (bill of exchange / documentary collection)

Payment method where the exporter sends documents via a remitting bank to a collecting bank in the import country which delivers them to the importer for payment on sight or x days after acceptance

Documentation fee

Fee charged for issuing a document e.g. fee charged by a Chamber of Commerce for issuing a Certificate of Origin

Door

Access point of a container which provides load bearing strength, it is weatherproof, reasonably airtight and allows containers to be sealed

Door head

Steel rail at the top of the front or back of a container where the doors are present

Door sill

Bottom end transverse member joining the bottom corner fittings of an end frame which is designed to house a door

Door-to-door

Where a transport company is responsible for the entire transport movement from origin to final destination

Double stacked train

A freight train for transporting containers, using wagons that allow containers to be stacked two high

Draft (draught)

The distance from the waterline to the lowest point on a ship's hull

Draught (draft)

The distance from the waterline to the lowest point on a ship's hull

Drayage

The inland transportation of cargo (container) – may also refer to the fee paid for inland transportation of cargo

Driver waiting time (vehicle detention) fee

Fee charged for delaying a truck while it is delivering or collecting a container at the (un)stuffing location beyond the free time allowed in the contract of carriage

Dry bulk

Raw or semi-processed goods shipped loose (unpacked) - includes: iron ore, coal, grain, phosphate, alumina, soya, cement & wood chips

Dry bulk container

Container for the carriage of dry bulks without packaging - may be pressurised or non-pressurised



Dry port (ICD / Inland container depot)

Terminal located in the hinterland of one or more ports providing container handling and storage services for loaded and empty containers under customs control

Dumb barge

A vessel that has no motive power (engine) usually used on inland waterways for transporting cargo and is often unmanned

Dunnage

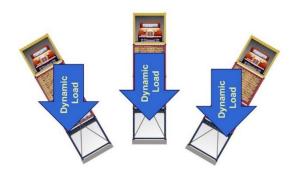
Low value material such as timber or matting used to protect and secure cargo during transport

DWT (deadweight tonnage)

Maximum weight a ship can carry – including cargo (containers), fuel, fresh water, other provisions and people

Dynamic (live) load

Loads exerted on an object (such as a container, hatch cover or quay) that vary over time e.g. the load a forklift truck exerts as it travels over a floor



E

East-West trade

Trade routes linking Asia, Europe, and North America

EBS (emergency bunker surcharge)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for increases in fuel costs in addition to the bunker adjustment factor (BAF)

Economies of scale

Where the average cost of a unit reduces when the number of units produced increases

EDI (electronic data interchange)

Computer-to-computer exchange of business documents in a standard electronic format between business partners

EDI (telex) release fee

Fee charged for sending forms and messages to a terminal, customs or other government agency — may be charged by a freight forwarder

EIR (equipment interchange receipt)

Document issued when a container is transferred from one party to another confirming the condition of a container e.g. issued by a terminal to a truck driver during the gate in process

EIS (equipment imbalance surcharge)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for costs incurred to reposition empty containers from a region where there is no export demand for that container size or type

Electronic data interchange (EDI)

Computer-to-computer exchange of business documents in a standard electronic format between business partners

Emergence bunker surcharge (EBS)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for increases in fuel costs in addition to the bunker adjustment factor (BAF)

Emergency rate restoration (ERR)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for short term or unexpected increases in shipping costs

Emergency risk surcharge (ERS) [1]

A surcharge added to a freight rate for costs incurred by ships sailing in dangerous areas to cover additional bunker, insurance and security costs

Empties (empty container)

Container(s) that are empty of cargo

Empty container (empties)

Container(s) that are empty of cargo

Empty depot

Storage area for empty shipping containers - it may be located within the terminal or in an off-site location

Empty handler

Crane designed specifically for handling empty containers by connecting to two corner castings along the long side of the container



Empty stack

Area in a container yard where empty containers are stored typically densely stacked - grouped by size, type and owner

EN 13044-1

European Standard EN 13044-1 Intermodal Loading Units – Marking – Part 1: Markings for identification

End frame

The structure formed from the two corner posts and the top and end rails



End use certificate

A document confirming who the beneficial cargo owner is and their use of goods to be exported – required for restricted items such as military goods, advanced technology or overseas aid

End-of-life

The re-use of containers that have reached the end of their shipping life

End-to-end rotation (service)

A rotation linking two trade regions – a ship loads cargo in one trade region destined for the second trade region and then loads cargo in the second trade region destined for the first trade region

End-to-end service (rotation)

A rotation linking two trade regions – a ship loads cargo in one trade region destined for the second trade region and then loads cargo in the second trade region destined for the first trade region

Engineering

Department responsible for the maintenance and repair of port handling equipment and infrastructure

ENS (entry summary declaration)

The advanced notification of containerised cargo details (import, transit, transhipment and remain onboard containers) by carriers to the Customs Authority at the first of one or more sequential port calls made at EU ports – used to undertake a security risk assessment

Entry summary declaration (ENS)

The advanced notification of containerised cargo details (import, transit, transhipment and remain onboard containers) by carriers to the Customs Authority at the first of one or more sequential port calls made at EU ports – used to undertake a security risk assessment

Environmental load

Loads exerted on an object caused by environmental forces – e.g. rain, snow, ice, wind and earthquakes

Environmental surcharge

A surcharge added to a freight rate for fees charged by a port to cover contingency fees related to the ability to clean-up oil or other types of spills or materials accidentally released into the environment

Equipment damage or repair estimate message (DESTIM)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners used by a container repair company to provide details of container damage or a cost estimate for repair

Equipment imbalance surcharge (EIS)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for costs incurred to reposition empty containers from a region where there is no export demand for that container size or type

Equipment interchange receipt (EIR)

Document issued when a container is transferred from one party to another confirming the condition of a container e.g. issued by a terminal to a truck driver during the gate in process

Equipment repositioning surcharge (ERS) [2]

A surcharge added to a freight rate for the costs incurred to provide a consignor with an empty container that has to be repositioned from another location or region

Equipment type code

Alpha code in the ISO container number format to distinguish between containers (U), detachable equipment (J) and chassis/ trailers (Z)

ERR (emergency rate restoration)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for short term or unexpected increases in shipping costs

ERS (emergency risk surcharge) [1]

A surcharge added to a freight rate for costs incurred by ships sailing in dangerous areas to cover additional bunker, insurance and security costs

ERS (equipment repositioning surcharge) [2]

A surcharge added to a freight rate for the costs incurred to provide a consignor with an empty container that has to be repositioned from another location or region

Estimate time of arrival (ETA)

An estimate of the date and time of arrival for a transport vehicle shown on a schedule e.g. when a ship is expected to arrive at a terminal

Estimated time of departure (ETD)

An estimated date and time of departure of a transport vehicle e.g. when a ship is expected to depart at a terminal

ETA (estimated time of arrival)

An estimate of the date and time of arrival for a transport vehicle shown on a schedule e.g. when a ship is expected to arrive at a terminal

ETD (estimated time of departure)

An estimated date and time of departure of a transport vehicle e.g. when a ship is expected to depart at a terminal

Ethylene (C₂H₄)

This is a naturally occurring ripening hormone - its presence can influence ripening of fruit and vegetables

European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR)

Treaty relating to the transportation of dangerous goods by road, covering the packaging, labelling and handling of goods as well as the construction, equipment and operation of transport vehicles – as of 2019 it was ratified by 51 states primarily in Europe

European Committee for Standardization (CEN)

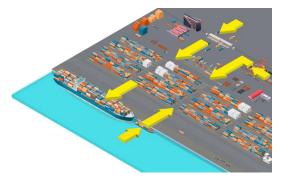
An association of 33 European national standardisation bodies - responsible for developing and defining voluntary standards at a European level

Exponent

Mathematical function used in container number algorithm

Export containers

An international container shipment transporting goods out of the country the goods originated from



Export credit insurance

An exporter insures the risk of non-payment of an open account shipment with an insurance company or government

Export declaration

Document that details goods being exported from a country which is submitted to the Customs Authority in the country of export by the exporter or their customs broker

Export documentation fee

Fee charged for issuing a document required by an exporter e.g. fee charged by a Chamber of Commerce for issuing a Certificate of Origin

Export forms

Specific forms that must be submitted to meet a country's custom requirements to allow goods to be exported

Export licence

A document providing permission to export goods – required for restricted items such as national treasures, military goods, advanced technology or for exports to certain countries, organisations or persons

Exporter

The shipper in the movement of cargo who is responsible to the Customs Authority for the customs declaration and payment of duties in the country of export

External dimension

The maximum outer length, height and width of a container which includes any parts that protrude beyond the floor, roof or walls such as the corner castings

External truck (road truck)

Vehicle that is designed and licenced for use on the national road network to carry cargo

Extra-loader ship (voyage)

A voyage or entire rotation that is not scheduled but is added by a shipping line – it may be in response to an increase in demand or due to extraordinary circumstances such as strike action which reduces capacity of planned services

Extra-loader voyage (ship)

A voyage or entire rotation that is not scheduled but is added by a shipping line – it may be in response to an increase in demand or due to extraordinary circumstances such as strike action which reduces capacity of planned services

F

Factoring

Payment method where an exporter sells cargo on open account and then sells on the debt to a third party which then owns the debt and receives payment from the importer

FAF (fuel adjustment factor / bunker adjustment factor / BAF)

A surcharge added to a freight rate to account for fluctuating fuel costs

FAK (freight all kinds)

A carriers freight rate which applies to all types of goods and not to a specific commodity or cargo type

FAS (free alongside ship)

Contract of sale where the seller delivers goods to the port of origin from where the buyer pays all costs and takes the risk of transport – Incoterm

FCA (free carrier)

Contract of sale where the seller delivers goods cleared for export to a carrier selected by the buyer and loads goods onto the carrier vehicle after which buyer takes all risks and costs – most widely used Incoterm

FCL (full container load)

A container carrying a consignment of cargo exported by a single shipper to one beneficial cargo owner

FDC (frozen distribution centre)

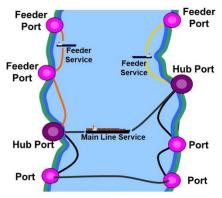
Warehouse where products which have to be maintained at temperatures below -18oC are received, stored and consolidated before being redistributed to retailer stores, wholesalers or direct to consumers

Federal Maritime Commission (FMC)

US Government agency responsible for ensuring competitive and reliable international maritime transport services and protecting the public from unfair and deceptive practices

Feeder port

A port served by a feeder ship which transfers containers to/from a hub port where the containers are transhipped to/from a mainline service



Feeder ship

Use of a relatively small container ship to transport a container between an import/export port and a transhipment terminal to connect with a larger container ship

FEU (forty foot equivalent unit)

Measurement unit for containers based on a standard 40ft nominal length known as an FEU e.g. 20ft container = 0.5 FEU and a 40ft container = 1 FEU

Fifth party logistics (5PL)

Where an independent and neutral lead logistics organisation optimizes a network of supply chains with a strong focus on a technological logistics solution usually including eBusiness

Fifth wheel

A coupling device on a tractor used to connect a trailer

Fighting ship

A ship used by a shipping line or shipping conference to exclude or prevent competition from entering a trade route – the ship would be anchored at a port and placed on a berth to undercut freight rates charged when a competitor berthed at the port

Firm booking message (IFTMBF)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message sent by shipper as a confirmed booking instruction for transport services

First examination date

This date is five years from the date of manufacture and applies to all containers under the Convention for Safe Containers

First mile

Refers to the transport of cargo from the consignor to the local depot of the carrier who is responsible for transporting the cargo to its final destination – the first stage of pre-carriage

First party logistics (1PL)

Where the transport of cargo is arranged and performed either by the consignor (sender) or consignee (receiver) – cargo distribution is an internal process within either the consignor or consignee organisation

Flange connection

Plate or ring at the end of a pipe which may close it or connect it to another pipe - many different standards based on operational requirements

Flat rack (platform container)

Loadable platform giving flexibility in cargo loading and access - may be a simple platform or have collapsible or permanent ends

Flexitank

A large bladder with a valve system that fits inside a general purpose container that can be filled with liquid cargo – each flexitank typically holds between 10,000 and 24,000 litres

Floor

Base of a container, often made of wood, which supports the payload of a container

Floor bearer

The base structure of a container consisting of 2 bottom side rails connected by the understructure (or underframe) to support the floor

FLT (forklift truck / heavy lift forklift truck)

Crane which has projecting arms (forks) that lift objects

FMC (Federal Maritime Commission)

US Government agency responsible for ensuring competitive and reliable international maritime transport services and protecting the public from unfair and deceptive practices

FOB (free on board)

Contract of sale where the seller delivers goods on board the ship and clears the goods for export, buyer pays all costs and takes risk of transport from that point – Incoterm

Folding (hinged) hatch cover

A hatch cover that consists of multiple panels that are hinged together and opened hydraulically

Force majeure

An event or emergency which is beyond a party's control and which prevents them fulfilling a contractual obligation e.g. war, strike, riot, crime or an act of God such as an earthquake or flood

Fore

At the front of a ship

Foreign trade zone (free trade zone / FTZ)

A secure area, approved by customs, which is treated as being outside a country's territory for tax purposes to encourage economic activity – goods can be stored and value-added activities performed

Forklift pocket

Reinforced hole in the bottom side rail of a container to allow lifting and carrying by a forklift truck

Forklift truck (FLT / heavy lift forklift truck)

Crane which has projecting arms (forks) that lift objects



Forks

A pronged attachment to a crane used to lift and transport objects

Forty foot equivalent unit (FEU)

Measurement unit for containers based on a standard 40ft nominal length known as an FEU e.g. 20ft container = 0.5 FEU and a 40ft container = 1 FEU

Forward

At or towards the fore (front) of a ship



Forwarding & consolidation summary message (IFCSUM)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners used for arranging consolidation of cargo – may include collecting consignments from one shipper and advice on insurance

Forwarding & transport schedule & availability information message (IFTSAI)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message to send schedule details about the planned port calls for a ship

Foul (claused / dirty / unclean) bill of lading

Bill of lading that has text referring to any adverse condition of the cargo e.g. may state damage such as "cargo received wet"

Fourth party logistics (4PL)

Where an independent and neutral lead logistics organisation, often working in a joint venture with a primary manufacturer, manages logistics within an entire supply chain

Free alongside ship (FAS)

Contract of sale where the seller delivers goods to the port of origin from where the buyer pays all costs and takes the risk of transport – Incoterm

Free carrier (FCA)

Contract of sale where the seller delivers goods cleared for export to a carrier selected by the buyer and loads goods onto the carrier vehicle after which buyer takes all risks and costs – most widely used Incoterm

Free on board (FOB)

Contract of sale where the seller delivers goods on board the ship and clears the goods for export, buyer pays all costs and takes risk of transport from that point – Incoterm

Free period

Agreed period of time that equipment (including a container) may be retained or an item (including a container) may be stored without incurring a detention or demurrage fee

Free time

A period of time provided before a chargeable service such as detention or demurrage starts to be incurred

Free trade zone (foreign trade zone / FTZ)

A secure area, approved by customs, which is treated as being outside a country's territory for tax purposes to encourage economic activity – goods can be stored and value-added activities performed

Freight (cargo) insurance

Insurance providing cover for cargo against risk, physical loss or damage during shipment by land, sea or air – many different types exist which may be specific to different transport modes

Freight all kinds (FAK)

A carriers freight rate which applies to all types of goods and not to a specific commodity or cargo type

Freight forwarder

Company who acts on behalf of a consignor and consignee providing knowledge and services related to cargo requirements, routing, carrier selection and supervision of the movement of cargo – they may also provide additional services like warehousing, handling, packaging and consolidation

Freight forwarder (house) bill of lading

A bill of lading issued by a freight forwarder that states their terms and conditions of carriage which are often used for LCL shipments - may not be subject to the Hague or Hague-Visby rules

Freight statement message (IFTFCA)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message exchanging a freight statement detailing invoices and payments

Freight surcharge

An extra fee added to a freight rate paid by the consignor or consignee to cover a particular cost incurred by the carrier

Frozen

Temperatures below which moisture becomes frozen – typically -18oC or below is required for long term storage of frozen food

Frozen distribution centre (FDC)

Warehouse where products which have to be maintained at temperatures below -18oC are received, stored and consolidated before being redistributed to retailer stores, wholesalers or direct to consumers

FTZ (foreign trade zone / free trade zone)

A secure area, approved by customs, which is treated as being outside a country's territory for tax purposes to encourage economic activity – goods can be stored and value-added activities performed

Fuel (furnace / heavy / marine) oil

Any liquid fuel that is burned in a furnace or boiler to generate heat or used in an engine to generate power

Fuel adjustment factor (FAF / bunker adjustment factor / BAF)

A surcharge added to a freight rate to account for fluctuating fuel costs

Fulfilment centre

Warehouse where products are collected, stored and packed then redistributed direct to consumers – usually associated with online shopping

Full container

Container stuffed with cargo

Full container load (FCL)

A container carrying a consignment of cargo exported by a single shipper to one beneficial cargo owner

Full stacking strength

Containers tested and approved as having the strength as defined by the Convention for Safe Containers (192 tonnes at 1.8g stacking & 150kn racking strength)

Fully cellular container ship

A ship designed to specifically carry containers both above and below deck, incorporating structures such as cell guides and lashing bridges



Fully cellular geared container ship

A ship designed with its own cranes to specifically carry containers both above and below deck, incorporating structures such as cell guides and lashing bridges



Fumigation

Killing of pests, such as insects, using a poisonous gas or pesticide

Fumigation certificate

A document that confirms the goods, packaging and the container they are stuffed in have been fumigated to meet a country's importing requirements

Furnace (fuel / heavy / marine) oil

Any liquid fuel that is burned in a furnace or boiler to generate heat or used in an engine to generate power



GAS (Gulf of Aden surcharge)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for costs incurred transiting the Gulf of Aden caused by the risk of piracy

Gate complex (facility)

The entrance (exit) to the container terminal where containers on trucks are inspected before entering / leaving the terminal

Gate facility (complex)

The entrance (exit) to the container terminal where containers on trucks are inspected before entering / leaving the terminal Gate in

Procedure followed to give a truck (train or barge) access to a terminal including the checking and inspection of any containers carried

Gate out

Procedure followed to allow a truck (train or barge) to exit a terminal including the checking and inspection of any containers carried

GDP (gross domestic product)

The total value of goods produced and services provided in a country during one year

Gear bins (ships gear bins)

Storage units for twist locks which are transferred onto the quay during (un)loading operations

Geared cellular container ship

A ship equipped with its own cranes for cargo handling operations, the below decks have cell guides for the carriage of containers

Geared cellular ship

A ship equipped with its own cranes for cargo handling operations, the below decks have cell guides for the carriage of containers

Geared ship

A ship equipped with its own cranes for cargo handling operations

Gearless ship

A ship not equipped with its own cranes for cargo handling operations

General average

Principle in maritime law where all stakeholders involved in a sea voyage must share any loss from a voluntary act causing partial loss to the ship or cargo that saves the rest of the ship and cargo in an emergency

General merchandise

Non-specialist products used by the public – excludes items such as food and pharmaceuticals

General purpose container

Totally enclosed container with door openings - as it is very versatile it is the most common type of container seen in operation



General rate increase (GRI)

When a shipping line declares a percentage increase in all freight rates on a trade route – this practice is associated with the requirement for carriers to give 30 days notice prior to freight rate increases by the FMC in the USA

Generator container

Container containing generator equipment to provide power to reefers, used in terminals and on-board ship

Genset

Detachable diesel generator used to provide power to reefer containers – typically for land based movements

Genset fee

Fee charged for providing a genset for the precarriage or on-carriage transport of a reefer container

Global alliance

An agreement between container shipping lines to cooperate on multiple trades or on a global basis to jointly operate ships to provide container services – member shipping line maintain separate marketing and commercial activities

Gondola (lashing cage / man cage)

A protective platform with mesh walls attached to a spreader to transport port workers so they can access container stacks on a ship to perform lashing operations

Gooseneck attachment

A device that connects to the fifth wheel of a tractor and a gooseneck pocket in a trailer



Gooseneck Container

A container that has an external recess in the container floor to allow transport by a gooseneck chassis (this lowers their combined height and improves stability)

Gooseneck pocket

A reinforced hole in the front structure of a trailer to allow lifting and moving by a tractor equipped with a gooseneck attachment

Grapple arms

Arm like structures which close around an object and lock onto grapple pockets so the object can be lifted

Gravity

The force that attracts a body towards any physical body having mass, for example towards the centre of the earth

Great circle

The shortest distance between two locations on the earth – the preferred route for a ship or aircraft to travel

GRI (general rate increase)

When a shipping line declares a percentage increase in all freight rates on a trade route – this practice is associated with the requirement for carriers to give 30 days notice prior to freight rate increases by the FMC in the USA

Gross domestic product (GDP)

The total value of goods produced and services provided in a country during one year

Gross registered tonnage (GRT)

A unit of measure of a ship's total internal volume – each ton is equal to 100 cubic feet (2.83m3)

Gross weight (actual gross weight)

The weight of a container including the container's tare weight, the weight of the cargo and any packaging or dunnage

Example

Actual gross weight = tare + payload 11,000kg = 2,800kg + 8,200kg

Groupage (consolidation)

Consignments from different consignors destined for different consignees are combined into one container – known as a less than container load (LCL)

GRT (gross registered tonnage)

A unit of measure of a ship's total internal volume – each ton is equal to 100 cubic feet (2.83m3)

Gulf of Aden surcharge (GAS)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for costs incurred transiting the Gulf of Aden caused by the risk of piracy

Gypsum

Soft sulphate mineral (calcium sulphate dehydrate) widely used in the building industry for plaster and in agriculture to improve soil quality

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Hague Rules (1924)

UN convention (International Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules of Law Relating to Bills of Lading, and Protocol of Signature) concerning minimum standards for common carriers of cargo by sea - updated in 1931, 1977 and 1982 to become the Hague-Visby Rules

Hague-Visby Rules (1968)

UN convention updating the 1924 Hague Rules concerning the rights and obligations of carriers and shippers for the carriage of goods by sea covered by a bill of lading or similar document

Half height container

A container with an external height of 4ft 3in, suited for the shipment of heavy loads – term is sometimes used for any container with a height of less than 8ft



Hamburg Rules (1978)

UN convention concerning all contracts for the international carriage of goods by sea which set out to replace the Hague and Hague-Visby Rules – not in force due to lack of ratification by member states

Harbour maintenance fee (HMF)

An ad-valorem fee charged to parties benefiting from the maintenance of US ports and harbours – charged by the US Customs Authority and set at 0.125% on imported goods

Harmonized commodity description & coding system (HS code / harmonized system)

International standard of classifying goods which is managed by the World Customs Organisation and based on a 6-digit coding system – used for customs tariffs and international trade statistics it includes some 5,000 commodity groups and covers over 98% of cargo descriptions

Harmonized system (harmonized commodity description & coding system / HS code)

International standard of classifying goods which is managed by the World Customs Organisation and based on a 6-digit coding system – used for customs tariffs and international trade statistics it includes some 5,000 commodity groups and covers over 98% of cargo descriptions

Hatch (hatchway)

Opening in the deck of a ship through which cargo can be loaded

Hatch cover

A structure that closes hatchways (openings in the hold) on the weather deck and ensures the hold is watertight during a voyage

Hatchway (hatch)

Opening in the deck of a ship through which cargo can be loaded

HAZ (hazardous / IMO) surcharge

A surcharge added to a freight rate for shipping dangerous cargo

Hazardous (dangerous) cargo

Cargo that has the potential to harm people, property or the environment directly or indirectly

Hazardous (HAZ / IMO) surcharge

A surcharge added to a freight rate for shipping dangerous cargo

Hazardous stack

Area within a container yard where containers containing hazardous cargo are stored

Headspace (ullage)

The free (empty) space in a tank or container used to carry bulk liquid or dry bulk – often used to allow for the expansion of the cargo transported

Health certificate

A document that confirms goods for human consumption meet an importing country's requirements

Heavy (fuel / furnace / marine) oil

Any liquid fuel that is burned in a furnace or boiler to generate heat or used in an engine to generate power

Heavy fuel oil (HFO / No. 6 fuel oil / residual fuel oil)

Low grade fuel oil that remains after all other distillates have been refined from crude oil which has traditionally been the main fuel oil for container ships – being phased out by Annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL Convention)

Heavy lift cargo

Cargo that due to its weight requires special lifting equipment or operations during (un)loading

Heavy lift forklift truck (FLT / forklift truck) Crane which has projecting arms (forks) that lift

Crane which has projecting arms (forks) that lift objects

Heavy weight surcharge (HWS) / overweight surcharge (OWS)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for heavy containers weighing over a certain gross weight

Hermetically

The closing of an object or space in a way which is completely airtight to prevent contamination of the contents from the outside environment and their uncontrolled release

HFO (heavy fuel oil / No. 6 fuel oil / residual fuel oil)

Low grade fuel oil that remains after all other distillates have been refined from crude oil which has traditionally been the main fuel oil for container ships – being phased out by Annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL Convention)

High cube containers

Containers that are 9ft 6in high compared to the traditional 8ft or 8ft 6in high - introduced in 1980s to give more volume for light bulky cargo

High sulphur fuel oil (HSFO)

A fuel oil which has a sulphur content of less than 3.5%

High tide

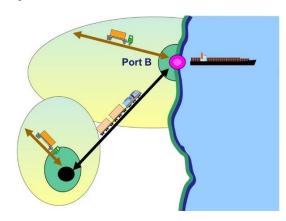
A state of the tide when it is at its highest level, which may be once or twice during the tidal day

Hinged (folding) hatch cover

A hatch cover that consists of multiple panels that are hinged together and opened hydraulically

Hinterland

The landward region of a port where cargo originates from or is distributed to



HMF (harbour maintenance fee)

An ad-valorem fee charged to parties benefiting from the maintenance of US ports and harbours – charged by the US Customs Authority and set at 0.125% on imported goods

Hoist rope (hoist wire)

Connects a lifting (hoist) motor on a crane with a hook or spreader

Hoist wire (hoist rope)

Connects a lifting (hoist) motor on a crane with a hook or spreader

Hoisting trolley (trolley)

Structure which travels along a cranes boom and from which hoist ropes and a lifting device such as a hook or spreader are suspended

Hold

Space below the weather deck of a ship used to store cargo – most ships are constructed with a number of separate holds

Homeward bill of lading

A bill of lading where the cargo is being imported from a port located in another country

Hopper

Device used in materials handling for controlling the pouring loose bulk cargo such as grain into a machine, conveyor belt or storage area

House (freight forwarder) bill of lading

A bill of lading issued by a freight forwarder that states their terms and conditions of carriage which are often used for LCL shipments - may not be subject to the Hague or Hague-Visby rules

Housekeeping move

A non-revenue earning movement of a container in a container terminal to improve the organisation of container stacks in advance of operations

HS code (harmonized commodity description & coding system / harmonized system)

International standard of classifying goods which is managed by the World Customs Organisation and based on a 6-digit coding system – used for customs tariffs and international trade statistics it includes some 5,000 commodity groups and covers over 98% of cargo descriptions

HSFO (high sulphur fuel oil)

A fuel oil which has a sulphur content of less than 3.5%

Hub port

A port of call in a region where a shipping line tranships containers between mainline and feeder services

Humidity

Amount of water vapour in the air

HWS (heavy weight surcharge) / OWS (overweight surcharge)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for heavy containers weighing over a certain gross weight

Hygroscopic

The ability of a substance to absorb or adsorb water from its surroundings – this may reduce cargo quality and may increase its weight

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IBC (intermediate bulk container)

Storage container for bulk liquids or granular substances – typically has pallet type base to aid lifting and stacking

ICC (International Chamber of Commerce)

Trade body promoting international trade, business conduct and a global approach to regulation – issues voluntary rules for business including Incoterms and UCP 600 Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits

ICD (dry port / Inland container depot)

Terminal located in the hinterland of one or more ports providing container handling and storage services for loaded and empty containers under customs control

ICHCA (International Cargo Handling Coordination Association)

A not-for-profit organisation established to improve the safety, security, sustainability, productivity and efficiency of cargo handling and goods movement by all transport modes

IFCSUM (forwarding & consolidation summary message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners used for arranging consolidation of cargo – may include collecting consignments from one shipper and advice on insurance

IFO380

An intermediate fuel oil for ships which is a mix of 88% residual oil and 12% distillate oil

IFTDGN (dangerous goods notification message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from the party responsible for declaring dangerous goods to the local authority at a port responsible for checking dangerous cargo

IFTFCA (freight statement message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message exchanging a freight statement detailing invoices and payments

IFTFCC (international transport freight costs & other charges message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message exchanging a freight invoice – may be sent from a carrier requesting payment for the transport of a container

IFTIAG (dangerous cargo list message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message detailing a list of dangerous cargo

IFTMAN (arrival notice message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message sent by a carrier to confirm the arrival of a consignment

IFTMBC (booking confirmation message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message sent by carrier accepting, rejecting, pending a confirmed booking request by a shipper – sent in response to a IFTMBF message

IFTMBF (firm booking message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message sent by shipper as a confirmed booking instruction for transport services

IFTMBP (provisional booking message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message sent by shipper as a provisional booking instruction for transport services

IFTMCS (instruction contract message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message sent by a carrier to confirm receipt of shipper instructions – sent in response to a IFTMIN message

IFTMIN (instruction message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message for shipping instructions sent to a carrier resulting in a contract of carriage

IFTSAI (forwarding & transport schedule & availability information message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message to send schedule details about the planned port calls for a ship

IFTSTA (international multimodal status message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message sent to inform of the status or change in status of a physical movement of cargo

IICL (Institute of International Container Lessors)

International trade association representing container and chassis leasing companies – provides examination and certification for container and chassis inspectors

ILO (International Labour Organization)

United Nations agency responsible for setting labour standards, policies and programmes that promote decent work for all men and women

ILU (intermodal loading units)

Form of unitisation allowing transfer of goods between transport modes without handling the goods themselves e.g. ISO and non-ISO container, semi-trailer or swapbody

ILU code

Covers the unique marking of intermodal loading units - made up of 4-digit owner code, 6-digit serial number and single check digit

IMDG Code (International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code)

International guidelines produced by the IMO for the carriage of dangerous goods by sea which are made law by individual countries [see International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code for IMDG Hazard classes]

IMO (HAZ / hazardous) surcharge

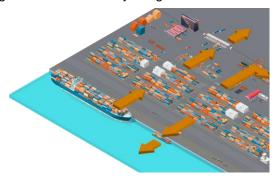
A surcharge added to a freight rate for shipping dangerous cargo

IMO (International Maritime Organization)

United Nations agency responsible for the safety and security of shipping and prevention of marine pollution by ships

Import containers

An international container shipment bringing goods into the country the goods are destined for



Import declaration

Document that details goods being imported into a country which is submitted to the Customs Authority in the country of import by the importer or their customs broker

Import documentation fee

Fee charged for issuing a document required by an importer

Import forms

Specific forms required to be submitted to a Customs Authority to meet a country's custom requirements to allow goods to be imported

Import licence

A document giving permission to import goods – required for restricted items such as drugs, alcohol or military goods or for imports from certain countries, organisations or persons

Import security filing (10 + 2)

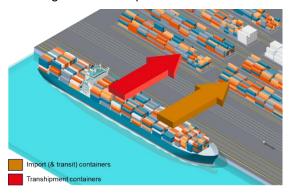
A custom submission of information on goods by an importer of goods to the USA that must be completed before goods are loaded at the vessel's departure port – includes details of exporter, importer, origin of goods and HS Code

Importer

The shipper in the movement of cargo who is responsible to the Customs Authority for the customs declaration and payment of duties in the country of import

Inbound container

Term for import, transit and transhipment containers that are planned for or have been discharged from a ship



INCOTERMS

Widely used set of voluntary rules defining the responsibilities of sellers and buyers involved in international trade – published by the International Chamber of Commerce

Related terms

- Carriage and insurance paid to (CIP)
- Carriage paid to (CPT)
- Cost and freight (CFR)
- Cost insurance and freight (CIF)
- Delivered at place (DAP)
- Delivered at terminal (DAT)
- Delivered duty paid (DDP)
- Free alongside ship (FAS)
- Free carrier (FCA)
- Free on board (FOB)

Index-linked service contracts

A freight rate agreement covering a period of time where the rate is indexed to the spot freight rate either in real time (real time index-linked) or adjusted with a time lag (time lag index-linked)

Inherent vice

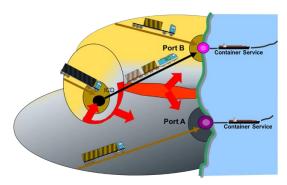
The natural tendency for some cargoes to deteriorate due to their own characteristics e.g. fermentation, insect infestation, hygroscopic or self-heating

Inland (intermodal) fuel surcharge

A surcharge added to the pre-carriage or oncarriage charge due to increases in fuel costs

Inland container depot (ICD / dry port)

Terminal located in the hinterland of one or more ports providing container handling and storage services for loaded and empty containers under customs control



Inland waterway (IWW)

A system of inland bodies of water including rivers, canals, lakes and bays / inlets navigable by ships and barges

Institute of International Container Lessors (IICL)

International trade association representing container and chassis leasing companies – provides examination and certification for container and chassis inspectors

Instruction contract message (IFTMCS)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message sent by a carrier to confirm receipt of shipper instructions – sent in response to a IFTMIN message

Instruction message (IFTMIN)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message for shipping instructions sent to a carrier resulting in a contract of carriage

Insulated container

Uses insulation to limit heat transfer with the outside environment to reduce temperature variation of the goods

Integrated reefer container

Containers with their own integrated refrigeration / heating system - may also be able to modify the air composition within container

Interchange area (grid / pad)

Designated area in a terminal where containers are transferred between cranes and vehicles

Interchange frame

A steel frame that is able to support one or more containers to act as a buffer between internal transport vehicles and yard cranes

Interchange grid (area / pad)

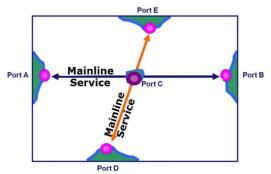
Designated area in a terminal where containers are transferred between cranes and vehicles

Interchange pad (area / grid)

Designated area in a terminal where containers are transferred between cranes and vehicles

Interlining

A port call where a shipping line tranships containers between mainline services



Intermediate bulk container (IBC)

Storage container for bulk liquids or granular substances – typically has pallet type base to aid lifting and stacking



Intermodal (inland) fuel surcharge

A surcharge added to the pre-carriage or oncarriage charge due to increases in fuel costs

Intermodal depot

A rail or inland waterway depot located away from a port where unitised loads are loaded and unloaded from rail wagons – the facility may or may not operate under customs control

Intermodal loading units (ILU)

Form of unitisation allowing transfer of goods between transport modes without handling the goods themselves e.g. ISO and non-ISO container, semi-trailer or swapbody

Intermodalism

Use of a unit load of transport which is transferred between transport vehicles and transport modes during a shipment

International Cargo Handling Coordination Association (ICHCA)

A not-for-profit organisation established to improve the safety, security, sustainability, productivity and efficiency of cargo handling and goods movement by all transport modes

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

Trade body promoting international trade, business conduct and a global approach to regulation – issues voluntary rules for business including Incoterms and UCP 600 Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits

International Container Bureau (BIC)

Non-governmental organisation for groups interested in containerisation and intermodal transport

International Labour Organization (ILO)

United Nations agency responsible for setting labour standards, policies and programmes that promote decent work for all men and women

International load line (plimsol line)

A marking positioned midships on a ship that indicates the maximum permitted draft in different types of water defined by the IMO Load Lines Convention

International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code)

International guidelines produced by the IMO for the carriage of dangerous goods by sea which are made law by individual countries

Class 1 – explosives Cargo that can cause an explosion

Class 2 – gasses Cargo that is a gas – including gases which are compressed, liquified or dissolved under pressure

Class 3 – flammable liquids Liquid cargo that can easily be set on fire – including liquids containing solids which give off flammable vapour

Class 4 – flammable solids Solid cargo that can easily be set on fire, can spontaneously combust or when in contact with water give off flammable vapour

Class 5 – oxidizing substances & organic peroxides Cargo that can produce oxygen and increase the risk of fire or is an organic peroxide which is a severe fire hazard

Class 6 – toxic & infectious substances

Cargo that can cause death or serious injury if swallowed, inhaled or in contact with the skin

Class 7 – radioactive material Cargo which emits energy waves due to decaying atomic nuclei

Class 8 – corrosive substances Cargo that through chemical action can cause severe damage when in contact with other cargo or the transport vehicle

Class 9 – miscellaneous dangerous substances & articles Dangerous cargo not covered by IMDG Classes 1 to 8

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

United Nations agency responsible for the safety and security of shipping and prevention of marine pollution by ships

International multimodal status message (IFTSTA)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message sent to inform of the status or change in status of a physical movement of cargo

International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

Independent, non-governmental organization with a membership of over 160 national standards bodies - develops voluntary standards for adoption globally

International Ship & Port Facility Security Code (ISPS Code)

An amendment to the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention setting minimum security levels for ships, ports and related government agencies – came into force in 2004

International transport freight costs & other charges message (IFTFCC)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message exchanging a freight invoice – may be sent from a carrier requesting payment for the transport of a container

International Union of Combined Road-Rail Transport Companies (UIRR)

Industry association for operators and terminals linking road and rail freight with a focus on intermodal and combined transport in Europe

International waterway

A channel, river or canal that acts as a boundary between two or more nations or is subject to an international treaty which provides ships of any country the right of passage

Inventory (stock) control

The process of managing and optimising stored goods and parts without impacting availability levels

Invoice

A document issued by a seller giving a list of goods sent or services provided to a buyer with payment requirements

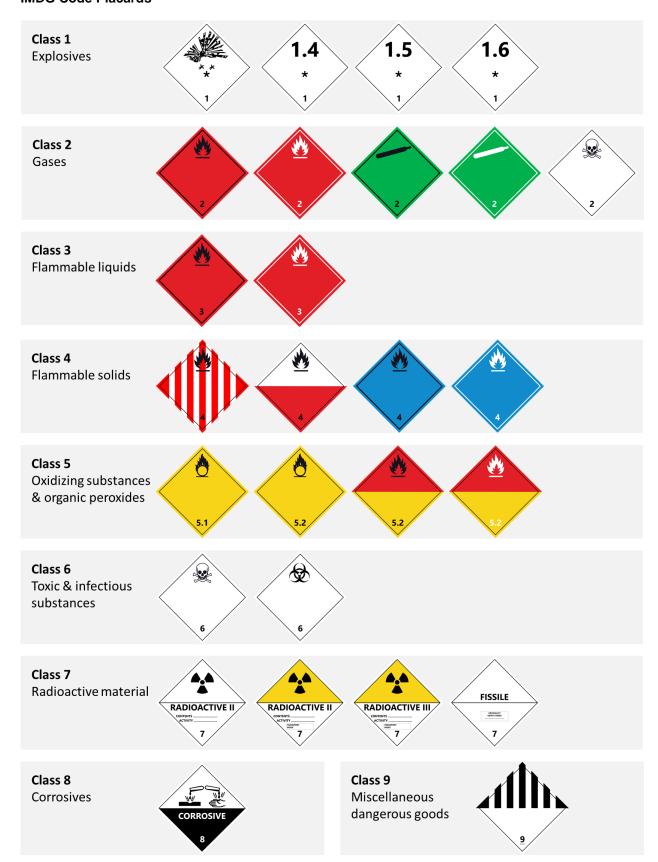
Inward manifest

Document required by Customs Authorities detailing the contents of a ship or other transport mode on arrival – includes list of crew, passengers and cargo (import and remain onboard)

Irrevocable letter of credit

Letter of credit that cannot be changed or cancelled by the issuing bank at any time or for any reason – this is the most common form of letter of credit

IMDG Code Placards



ISO (International Organization for Standardization)

Independent, non-governmental organization with a membership of over 160 national standards bodies - develops voluntary standards for adoption globally

ISO container

Container complying with all relevant ISO container standards in existence at time of manufacture - also known as series 1 freight container (Series 2 and 3 were never adopted)

ISO container designates

An alpha numeric classification of ISO Series 1 freight container, defined in ISO 668

- **1A** ISO container designate 1A is a container that has a nominal length of 40ft (actual length 40ft) and is 8ft high as defined in ISO 668
- **1AA** ISO container designate 1AA is a container that has a nominal length of 40ft (actual length 40ft) and is 8ft 6in high as defined in ISO 668
- **1AAA** ISO container designate 1AAA is a container that has a nominal length of 40ft (actual length 40ft) and is 9ft 6in high as defined in ISO 668
- 1AX ISO container designate 1AX is a container that has a nominal length of 40ft (actual length 40ft) and is <8ft high as defined in ISO 668
- **1B** ISO container designate 1B is a container that has a nominal length of 30ft (actual length 29ft 11¼in) and is 8ft high as defined in ISO 668
- **1BB** ISO container designate 1BB is a container that has a nominal length of 30ft (actual length 29ft 11¼in) and is 8ft 6in high as defined in ISO 668
- **1BBB** ISO container designate 1BBB is a container that has a nominal length of 30ft (actual length 29ft 11½in) and is 9ft 6in high as defined in ISO 668
- 1BX ISO container designate 1BX is a container that has a nominal length of 30ft (actual length 29ft 11¼in) and is <8ft high as defined in ISO 668
- **1C** ISO container designate 1C is a container that has a nominal length of 20ft (actual length 19ft 10½in) and is 8ft high as defined in ISO 668
- 1CC ISO container designate 1CC is a container that has a nominal length of 20ft (actual length 19ft 10½in) and is 8ft 6in high as defined in ISO 668

- **1CX** ISO container designate 1CX is a container that has a nominal length of 20ft (actual length 19ft 10½in) and is <8ft high as defined in ISO 668
- **1D** ISO container designate 1D is a container that has a nominal length of 10ft (actual length 9ft 9¾in) and is 8ft high as defined in ISO 668
- 1DX ISO container designate 1DX is a container that has a nominal length of 10ft (actual length 9ft 9¾in) and is <8ft high as defined in ISO 668
- **1EE** ISO container designate 1EE is a container that has a nominal length of 45ft (actual length 45ft) and is 8ft 6in high as defined in ISO 668
- **1EEE** ISO container designate 1EEE is a container that has a nominal length of 45ft (actual length 45ft) and is 9ft 6in high as defined in ISO 668

ISO Publicly Available Specification (ISO/PAS)

An ISO issued document or informal standard based on short term industry needs - it is a precursor to a formal standard

ISO Published Amendment (Amd)

An amendment to an existing ISO standard to reflect ongoing changes within the industry - issued with the abbreviation "Amd"

ISO Standard

Internationally recognised, specification for products, services or systems, to ensure quality, safety and efficiency - to facilitate international trade through standardisation

- **ISO 668** ISO standard on the classification of series 1 freight containers, their dimensions, maximum weight, door openings and corner fitting locations
- **ISO 790 (1973)** One of the early standards which was replaced by ISO 6346:1984 on the coding, identification and marking of freight containers
- **ISO 830** ISO standard on the vocabulary used for series 1 freight containers
- **ISO 1161** ISO standard on series 1 freight container for the design of corner castings (fittings) and twist lock devices
- **ISO 1496 Part 1** ISO standard on the design of general purpose type series 1 freight containers covers dimensions, structure and test specifications

ISO 1496 Part 2 ISO standard on the design of thermal type series 1 freight containers covers dimensions, structure and test specifications

ISO 1496 Part 3 ISO standard on the design of tank type series 1 freight containers covers dimensions, structure and test specifications

ISO 1496 Part 4 ISO standard on the design of non-pressurised dry bulk type series 1 freight containers - covers dimensions, structure and test specifications

ISO 1496 Part 5 ISO standard on the design of platform type series 1 freight containers covers dimensions, structure and test specifications

ISO 2716 (1972) One of the early standards which was replaced by ISO 6346:1984 on the coding, identification and marking of freight containers

ISO 3874 ISO standard on the handling and securing of series 1 freight containers

ISO 6346 ISO standard on coding, identification and marking of series 1 freight containers - covers container number, size types, weight marks, stacking strengths

ISO 9669 ISO standard on interface connection for tank containers - covers flange connections, welding, man holes and testing specifications

ISO 9711 ISO standard on information relating to containers on board ship - covers stowage location referencing

ISO 9897 ISO standard on container equipment data exchange (CEDEX) - covers the condition, damage and repair of containers, chassis and other equipment

ISO 10368 ISO standard on the remote monitoring of thermal containers - covers information logging and exchange as well as interfaces and monitoring

ISO 10374 ISO standard on the automatic identification of containers - covers electronic tags, sensing equipment and information held

ISO 14829 ISO standard on the calculation of straddle carrier stability

ISO 17712 ISO standard on mechanical seals - covers usage, marking, tampering, types and manufacturing security

ISO 18185 ISO standard on electronic seals - covers hardware, power needs, codes and security

ISO 18186 ISO standard on RFID cargo shipment tags - covers tag specification, data content and format, reader, network platform, reliability and accuracy

ISO TC (Technical Committees)

Have responsibility for the development of standards within the ISO - they are comprised of industry representatives, NGOs, governments & other stakeholders

ISO TC 8 ISO technical committee concerned with ships and marine technology

ISO TC 20 ISO technical committee concerned with aircraft and space vehicles

ISO TC 34 ISO technical committee concerned with food products including storage requirements

ISO TC 51 ISO technical committee concerned with pallets

ISO TC 104 The technical committee of the ISO responsible for standards relating to freight containers - formally known as ISO/TC 104 Freight Containers

ISO TC 110 ISO technical committee concerned with industrial trucks

ISO TC 111 ISO technical committee concerned with steel chains and slings

ISO TC 122 ISO technical committee concerned with packaging

ISO TC 154 ISO technical committee concerned with processes, data elements and documents in commerce, industry and administration

ISO TC 204 ISO technical committee concerned with intelligent transport systems

ISO Technical Committees (TC)

Have responsibility for the development of standards within the ISO - they are comprised of industry representatives, NGOs, governments & other stakeholders [see ISO TC for selection of transport related Technical Committees]

ISO Technical Corrigendum (Cor)

Issued if an error is identified within the text of a published ISO standard - issued with the abbreviation "Cor" in the title

ISO Technical Report (ISO/TR)

ISO documents which provide supporting information to the area for which a standard is being developed

ISO Technical Specification (ISO/TS)

Document issued to assist in discussions as part of the ISO standard development process prior to the issuing of a formal standard

ISO/PAS (ISO Publicly Available Specification)

An ISO issued document or informal standard based on short term industry needs - it is a precursor to a formal standard

ISO/TR (ISO Technical Report)

ISO documents which provide supporting information to the area for which a standard is being developed

ISO/TR 15069 Technical report issued in support of the ISO 3874 standard on double twist locks

ISO/TR 15070 Technical report to explain the reasoning behind the structural test detailed in ISO 1496

ISO/TS (ISO Technical Specification)

Document issued to assist in discussions as part of the ISO standard development process prior to the issuing of a formal standard

ISO/TS 10891 Published technical specification on the electronic tagging of containers using RFID (radio frequency identification) technology

ISO/TS 18625 Published technical specification on the requirements for container tracking and monitoring systems

ISPS Code (International Ship & Port Facility Security Code)

An amendment to the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention setting minimum security levels for ships, ports and related government agencies – came into force in 2004

ISPS fee

Fee charged for a container passing through a terminal to pay for the additional costs of implementing security required by the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS)

Isthmus

A narrow strip of land that connects two larger land masses and which separates two areas of water – for example the Isthmus of Suez and the Isthmus of Panama

IWW (inland waterway)

A system of inland bodies of water including rivers, canals, lakes and bays / inlets navigable by ships and barges

J

Joint tonnage centre

The office responsible for co-ordinating the stowage of container ships in a region for multiple shipping lines – will seek to maximise utilization of slots while minimising the number of overstowed containers while taking

Jones Act (1920)

Specifically, Section 27 of the Merchant Shipping Act (1920) defines cabotage rules which apply to the transport of cargo between ports in the USA and its territories

K

Keel

Main longitudinal steel structure along the bottom of the hull of a ship from bow to stern

Keel-to-mast

Vertical distance between the lowest point of a ship's keel and its highest point (mast / radio transmitter)

Keel-to-mast height

Vertical distance between the lowest point of a ship's keel and its highest point (mast / radio transmitter)

Kiel Canal

International waterway in northern Germany linking the North Sea to the Baltic Sea providing an alternative route to sailing around the Jutland Peninsular

Kmax

Measure of how well an object conducts (passes) heat, indicates amount of heat loss - marble has a K -value of 11.0, wood 0.76 and fiberglass insulation 0.33 (W/m2 °C) is the unit of measure)

Kn (knots)

Unit of measure for ship speed, one knot is equivalent to one nautical mile (1.852 kilometre or 1.151 miles) per hour

Knocking down ends fee

Fee charged for collapsing a platform container

Knots (Kn)

Unit of measure for ship speed, one knot is equivalent to one nautical mile (1.852 kilometre or 1.151 miles) per hour

kPa

Measure of internal pressure or stress, Pa (the pascal) is one newton per square metre (1hPa is 100 Pa, 1kPA is 1,000Pa and 1 MPA is 1,000,000 Pa) – average outside pressure at sea-level is about 101 kPa, some tank containers are rated above 1,000kPa (see also Bar)

L

L/C (letter of credit)

Guarantee given by a bank to an exporter that they will receive payment from an importer when the exporter submits specified documents covering the cargo that has been shipped

Lashing

To hold cargo in position by use of wires, rods, ropes, chains or straps

Lashing bridge

Frame rising up from the weather deck so lashing can be applied to higher tiers of containers, allowing taller stacks and greater loading weights per on deck stack

Lashing cage (man cage / gondola)

A protective platform with mesh walls attached to a spreader to transport port workers so they can access container stacks on a ship to perform lashing operations

Lashing plan

Provides details on how containers should be secured for a voyage using equipment such as twist locks and lashing rods and takes into account sea & weather conditions, vessel design, cargo weight and type (see Cargo Securing Manual)

Lashing rods

Devices used to secure container to the bridge when stowed above deck - incorporate a turnbuckle for tightening

Last mile

Refers to the final stage of transporting cargo from a carrier's local depot to the final receivers of cargo – the last stage of on-carriage

LCL (less than container load)

A container carrying multiple consignments of cargo from different exporters destined for different beneficial cargo owners

Lead logistics provider (4th party logistics provider / LLP)

A 4PL level service where a logistics company manages the flows across a supply chain overseeing a number of 3PL providers – usually the LLP is a neutral company

Length overall (LOA)

The length of a ship when measured parallel to the waterline

Length to Beam ratio (Beam to Length Ratio)

Relationship between the width (BOA) and length (LOA) of a ship which influences its stability, seakeeping abilities and fuel performance – most container ships are 1 meter in width to about 7m in length

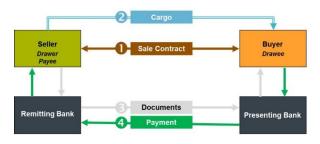


Less than container load (LCL)

A container carrying multiple consignments of cargo from different exporters destined for different beneficial cargo owners

Letter of credit (L/C)

Guarantee given by a bank to an exporter that they will receive payment from an importer when the exporter submits specified documents covering the cargo that has been shipped



Lift AGV

A form of AGV designed to lift and lower containers onto and off an interchange frame



Lift-away hatch cover

Hatch covers that are designed to be removed by a spreader and stored temporarily on the quayside to allow access to the hold

Lift-on lift-off (LoLo)

A (un)loading operation where cargo is transferred between the quay and the ship by a crane

Liner bill of lading

A bill of lading where the carrier is responsible for the loading and stowing of cargo, the ocean shipment and also discharging the cargo

Liner conference (shipping conference)

An agreement between shipping lines to provide a scheduled service on a particular trade route with uniform freight rates and terms of carriage – although still in existence the structure is becoming less common in shipping

Liquid bulk

Cargo shipped in large quantities without packaging which is fluid at room temperature and atmospheric pressure

Live (dynamic) load

Loads exerted on an object (such as a container, hatch cover or quay) that vary over time e.g. the load a forklift truck exerts as it travels over a floor

Livestock

Domesticated animals reared and fattened for use as food, material or labour e.g. pigs, sheep, goats, cows or horses

LLP (4th party logistics provider / lead logistics provider)

A 4PL level service where a logistics company manages the flows across a supply chain overseeing a number of 3PL providers – usually the LLP is a neutral company

LOA (length overall)

The length of a ship when measured parallel to the waterline

Load bearing strength

The maximum load (weight) an object can support over a defined area e.g. maximum weight of cargo supported by 1m2 of a container floor

Load lash and secure fee

Fee charged for cargo requiring additional securing or lashing

Load list

Document listing the details of the containers (cargo) to be loaded onto a ship during a port call

Load report

Document confirming the details of the containers (cargo) loaded onto a ship during a port call

Load weight

Measure of the amount of weight that is passed through an object onto another object - for example the load weight of a trucks wheel or axle

Loading bay

Area where trucks or railway wagons are loaded and unloaded – commonly found in commercial and industrial buildings, especially warehouses

Loading gauge

The maximum height and width of locomotives and railway wagons to enable safe travel over bridges, through tunnels and other obstacles



Loading hatch

Roof access in bulk containers through which cargo may be loaded

Lock

Man-made structure to allow ships or barges to sail on waterways where there are changes in water depth - may be a sea lock or a river / canal lock

Lock

Man-made structure allowing ships or barges to sail on waterways which have sections with different water level heights – may be a sea lock or a river / canal lock

Lock on

The correct securing of twist locks into the corner casting of a container

Logistics management

Process of coordinating the movement of resources so they flow from one location to another – getting the right thing to the right place at the right time in the right condition in the most effective way

LoLo (lift-on lift-off)

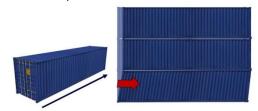
A (un)loading operation where cargo is transferred between the quay and the ship by a crane

Longitudinal

Along the length of an object (e.g. container)

Longitudinal racking

The longitudinal (along the length) distortion of a container shape due to structural failure



Lorry (truck)

General term for a vehicle designed to transport cargo which may be rigid (integrated) or articulated (connected to a trailer) in design – they include both road and terminal vehicles

Low sulphur fuel oil (LSFO)

A fuel oil which has a sulphur content of less than 1%

Low sulphur fuel surcharge (LSF)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for costs incurred by ships having to use low sulphur fuel instead of cheaper traditional heavy fuel oil (HFO)

Low water surcharge (LWR)

A surcharge added to a freight rate when a ship has to enter a port or river which due to low water conditions limits the ship's draught (draft)

LSF (low sulphur fuel surcharge)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for costs incurred by ships having to use low sulphur fuel instead of cheaper traditional heavy fuel oil (HFO)

LSFO (low sulphur fuel oil)

A fuel oil which has a sulphur content of less than 1%

LWR (low water surcharge)

A surcharge added to a freight rate when a ship has to enter a port or river which due to low water conditions limits the ship's draught (draft)

M

M&R (maintenance & repair)

Facility used to maintain and repair containers - which should be carried out under CSC regulations

MAFI (roll trailer)

Heavy duty trailer which is designed for use in terminals and on RoRo ships



MAIB (Marine Accident Investigation Branch)

UK Government body responsible for investigating marine accidents involving UK vessels worldwide and vessels in UK territorial waters

Main stack

Area within a container yard where the majority of containers are stored

Mainline service

The primary routes in a container shipping line's maritime network, excluding small local feeder services

Maintenance & repair (M&R)

Facility used to maintain and repair containers - which should be carried out under CSC regulations

Man cage (lashing cage / gondola)

A protective platform with mesh walls attached to a spreader to transport port workers so they can access container stacks on a ship to perform lashing operations

Marine (fuel / furnace / heavy) oil

Any liquid fuel that is burned in a furnace or boiler to generate heat or used in an engine to generate power

Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB)

UK Government body responsible for investigating marine accidents involving UK vessels worldwide and vessels in UK territorial waters

Marine insurance

Specialised insurance specific to the loss or damage of ships and cargo caused by the perils of sea – may include sinking, stranding, collision, fire, war, piracy, theft, capture, jettison and washing overboard

Marine pollutant

A substance that is a risk to aquatic ecosystems (marine life)

Marshalling (classification) yard

A railway yard where railway wagons are sorted and organised into train sets

Mass

Theoretically mass is the quantity of matter expressed in Kg, the weight of an object is the objects mass x gravity measured in Newtons - commonly the term weight is used instead of mass - the ISO always use the term mass

Mass payload

Technical term for the weight of cargo including dunnage

Mast [1]

Vertical beam structure of a crane which raises and lowers a lifting device such as forks, a spreader or container attachment – it may be telescopic

Mast [2]

Vertical structure above a ship's bridge for lighting, navigation and communication systems

Master bill of lading

A bill of lading issued by a shipping line to a slot charter, NVOCC or freight forwarder covering one or more containers

Maximum axle load (maximum axle weight)

The maximum weight (load) that passes through an axle onto the road or rail track



Maximum axle weight (maximum axle load)

The maximum weight (load) that passes through an axle onto the road or rail track

Maximum draft (draught)

The vertical distance between the international load line (plimsol line) and the lowest point on the ship's hull (keel)

Maximum draught (draft)

The vertical distance between the international load line (plimsol line) and the lowest point on the ship's hull (keel)

Maximum gross mass (rating)

The mass of a container including the container's tare mass, the mass of the cargo and any packaging or dunnage

Maximum gross weight

The designed maximum weight of a container including its tare, cargo and packaging or dunnage

Example

Maximum gross weight = tare + maximum payload (net)

35,000kg = 4,420kg + 30,580kg

Maximum load limit

Maximum load a crane is designed to lift or a vehicle is designed to transport safely under usual operating conditions

Maximum net weight (maximum payload)

The maximum weight of cargo, packaging and dunnage that can be loaded safely inside a container given its maximum gross and tare weight

Example

Maximum payload (net) = maximum gross weight - tare

30,580kg = 35,000kg - 4,420kg

Maximum payload (maximum net weight)

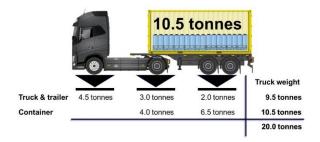
The maximum weight of cargo, packaging and dunnage that can be loaded safely inside a container given its maximum gross and tare weight

Example

Maximum payload (net) = maximum gross weight - tare 30,580kg = 35,000kg - 4,420kg

Maximum truck weight

Maximum gross vehicle weight allowed by law on the road network – depends on truck design and road type



Maximum weight

Maximum weight of a container including the weight of any cargo or packaging material - important for lifting devices

MDGF (multimodal dangerous goods form)

Document stating that dangerous goods have been classified, declared and packed correctly – combines the dangerous goods declaration and container packing certificate

Mechanical seal

Security device attached to the doors or other access points of a container to identify if the container has been tampered with - covered by ISO standard 17712

Merchant haulage

Where a shipper provides or arranges the inland transport of a container themselves or by another third party other than the shipping line

Microbial decay

Decomposition of living material through the action of bacteria

Microbial growth

Growth in the number of micro-organisms, such as bacteria, through cell division

Midships (amidships)

The area towards the centre of a ship (halfway between the fore and aft)

Mis-declaration fee

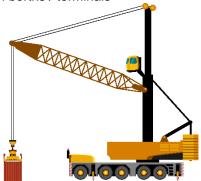
A penalty fee charged by a carrier to a shipper for mis-declaring hazardous cargo as non-hazardous

Mixed stacking

Stacking containers of different size types and/or design strengths in the same tier

Mobile harbour crane

A general crane designed to (un)load ships, it is fitted with wheels so it can move along and between berths / terminals



Modal split

The percentage share of cargo using a particular type of transport method for movement

Mold (mould)

A fungus that grows in the form of multicellular filaments - develops on organic matter

Mooring

The securing of a ship to the shore by ropes or other means

Mooring (berthing) fee

Fee charged for carrying out the tying up of a ship – often based on the size of the ship and may include the unmooring (unberthing) of a ship

Motorised (powered or self-propelled) barge

A manned barge equipped with its own motor and navigation systems

Mould (mold)

A fungus that grows in the form of multicellular filaments - develops on organic matter

Move instruction message (MOVINS)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for message instructing a terminal to load, discharge, shift or restow containers, other cargo or equipment – supports information in the BAPLIE message

MOVINS (move instruction message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for message instructing a terminal to load, discharge, shift or restow containers, other cargo or equipment – supports information in the BAPLIE message

Multimodal (combined transport) bill of lading

Bill of lading covering more than one mode of transport where the carrier has responsibility from the inland place of receipt to the inland place of delivery

Multimodal dangerous goods form (MDGF)

Document stating that dangerous goods have been classified, declared and packed correctly – combines the dangerous goods declaration and container packing certificate

Multimodalism

The use of more than one transport mode to carry goods between the origin and destination – requires multiple handing of cargo as it is transferred between transport modes

Multipurpose geared ship

A ship equipped with its own cranes and built for a wide range of cargoes with movable tween decks, a box shaped hold and hatch openings across the width of the hold

Multipurpose ship

A ship built for a wide range of cargoes with moveable tween decks, a box shaped hold and hatch openings across the width of the hold

Multi-trailer

A powerful terminal tractor connected to a series of trailers to form a rubber tyred train like vehicle

N

N₂ (nitrogen)

This is a colourless odourless gas which is essential to living things and may be used to slow down respiration

National Defence Transportation Association (NDTA)

US association whose members are organisations involved in the transport of military cargo

National distribution centre (NDC)

Warehouse where products are collected, stored and consolidated before being redistributed to retailer stores, wholesalers or direct to consumers throughout a country

National standards organisation

An organisation given the responsibility by a government to develop and promote national industry standards – they also represent their countries on regional and global standards committees such as the ISO

Nautical mile (nm)

Measures distance at sea – 1 nautical mile is equal to one minute of latitude at the equator or 1,852m (1.1508 miles)

NDC (national distribution centre)

Warehouse where products are collected, stored and consolidated before being redistributed to retailer stores, wholesalers or direct to consumers throughout a country

NDTA (National Defence Transportation Association)

US association whose members are organisations involved in the transport of military cargo

NED (Next Examination Date)

Date applied to a container using a decal (sticker) managed under a PES scheme to indicate the next examination date

Negotiable bill of lading

A bill of lading where the consignee can be changed to another party

Negotiable document of title

A document that provides ownership of cargo where the ownership can changed by transferring the document to another party

Neopanamax

Maximum size of ship capable of transiting the new Panama Canal locks which opened in 2016 – for container ships this is 369m long and 51.2m wide, equivalent to 20 rows across and a capacity of about 14,000 TEU

Newton

Unit of measurement for weight which is calculated by multiplying an objects mass x gravity

Next Examination Date (NED)

Date applied to a container using a decal (sticker) managed under a PES scheme to indicate the next examination date

NGO (non-governmental organisation)

A non-profit organisation that may operate on a local, national or international level - its work is independent of states and government

Nitrogen (N₂)

This is a colourless odourless gas which is essential to living things and may be used to slow down respiration

NM (nautical mile)

Measures distance at sea – 1 nautical mile is equal to one minute of latitude at the equator or 1,852m (1.1508 miles)

No. 6 fuel oil (heavy fuel oil / HFO / residual fuel oil)

Low grade fuel oil that remains after all other distillates have been refined from crude oil which has traditionally been the main fuel oil for container ships – being phased out by Annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL Convention)

Nominal container length

The use of an approximate length to represent a container size e.g. 20ft containers are actually 19ft 10½in long

Nominal measurement

Qualitative unit of measure which groups items based on names or categories for example TEU or FEU

= 1 TEU



= 2 TEU



= 0.5 FEU

= 1 FEU

Non-climateric fruit

Types of fruit that only ripen whilst on the plant and have a short post-harvest shelf life

Non-containerised cargo

Cargo that is either unsuited to shipment in a container or due to shipping requirements is not transported in a container

Non-governmental organisation (NGO)

A non-profit organisation that may operate on a local, national or international level - its work is independent of states and government

Non-ISO container

A container that fails to meet one or more ISO standards relating to ISO series 1 freight containers

Non-locking cone

A simple metal cone upon which a corner casting sits dependent on load force to secure the container

Non-negotiable bill of lading

A bill of lading where the consignee cannot be changed to another party

Non-negotiable document of title

A document that provides ownership of cargo which cannot be transferred to another party

Non-pressurised container

For cargo loaded and carried at atmospheric pressure

Non-vessel owning common carrier (NVOCC)

A common carrier offering sea transport who does not own any vessels – it is like a virtual shipping line with the legal status and ability to limit liability of a common carrier

Northern Sea Route

The arctic shipping route defined by Russian legislation which allows ships to sail between Asia and Europe (Northeast Passage) – due to ice it is only available to shipping for a few months a year

North-South trade

Trade routes linking Europe and North America with Africa and South America

Notify party

The company that is to be informed by the carrier when a container arrives at its final destination port

NVOCC (non-vessel owning common carrier)

A common carrier offering sea transport who does not own any vessels – it is like a virtual shipping line with the legal status and ability to limit liability of a common carrier



O₂ (oxygen)

This is a colourless odourless gas which allows respiration by living things

Ocean (port to port) bill of lading

Bill of lading where the carrier's responsibility starts at the port of loading and ends at the port of discharge

OCR (Optical character recognition)

Conversion of images of typed, handwritten or printed text into an electronic format

Off-dock

When a facility such as an empty depot or railhead is located outside of a terminal requiring short moves between the terminal and the facility

Offshore container

Container designed for use by the offshore sector - they are excluded from the CSC but may be opted in

On (above) deck

Where cargo such as containers is transported above the hatch covers (deck) of the ship exposed to the marine environment (e.g. wind and waves)

Onboard (shipped) bill of lading

Bill of lading that states the cargo has been loaded onboard the ship – often simply stamped "onboard"

On-carriage

The inland movement after a container is discharged from a ship at the last port of discharge

On-carriage (delivery) fee

Fee charged for the on-carriage of a container to its final destination

One door-off

Containers shipped with one door removed to provide additional ventilation to the cargo - a good example would be onions

One-way traffic flows

Form of traffic management that may be used in terminals to reduce likelihood of collisions and improve traffic flows

OOG (out-of-gauge)

Cargo which extends beyond the external dimensions of a container - special care is required when handling and stowing so as not to damage the cargo

OOG (out-of-gauge) stack

Area within a container yard where containers stuffed with out-of-gauge (oversized) cargo are stored before loading / after unloading

Open account

Exporter ships cargo to an overseas buyer with payment due x days after the shipment is made or after it has been received by the buyer

Open bill of lading

A negotiable bill of lading where the name of the consignee can be changed by the current consignee i.e. title of ownership of the cargo can be changed

Open top container

Constructed similar to a general purpose container but with a removable or no roof



Optical character recognition (OCR)

Conversion of images of typed, handwritten or printed text into an electronic format

Order bill of lading

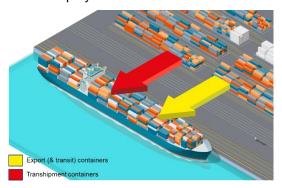
A negotiable bill of lading which is made out to a consignee "or their order" – the consignee may transfer title to the cargo to another party by endorsing the bill of lading

Organic

Term derived for materials that may be living such as fresh fruit, vegetables and shell fish or non-living such as frozen meat

Outbound container

Term for export, transit and transhipment containers that are planned or have been loaded onto a ship by a terminal



Out-of-date containers

Containers with an expired, or close to expired PES next examination date decal

Out-of-gauge (OOG)

Cargo which extends beyond the external dimensions of a container - special care is required when handling and stowing so as not to damage the cargo



Out-of-gauge (OOG) stack

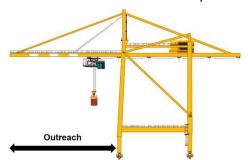
Area within a container yard where containers stuffed with out-of-gauge (oversized) cargo are stored before loading / after unloading

Out-of-gauge surcharge

A surcharge added to a freight rate for cargo that exceeds the dimensions of a standard container and therefore requires slots above or surrounding the container to be left empty

Outreach

Maximum distance to the front of a crane from which an object can be lifted – for quay cranes it is the distance from its seaward legs to the furthest accessible location on the ship



Outrigger (crane outrigger)

Leg type devices which provide a solid platform for a mobile crane to work safely

Outturn (devanning (stripping / unstuffing)

The act of unloading cargo from a container

Outturn report

Document detailing the unstuffing of a container, including a record of any cargo found missing or damaged

Outward bill of lading

A bill of lading where the cargo is being exported to another country and not to a port of the same country

Outward manifest

Document required by Customs Authorities detailing the contents of a ship or other transport mode on departure – includes list of crew, passengers and cargo (export and remain onboard)

Over height frame

A spreader attachment consisting of four legs to lift containers where the cargo exceeds the height of the container frame

Overweight surcharge (OWS) / heavy weight surcharge (HWS)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for heavy containers weighing over a certain gross weight

Overboard

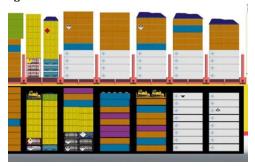
When an individual or cargo goes over the side of a ship into the water

Overhead bridging crane

A crane which travels over the top of container stacks using parallel runways supported by beams and pillars with a travelling bridge crane spanning the gap

Overstowed

When a container on a ship has containers stacked on top it that are destined for a later port of call – results in the containers stacked above having to be shifted or restowed



Owner code (BIC code)

3-digit alpha code managed by BIC for the financial owner or party with exclusive usage rights for a container

OWS (overweight surcharge) / HWS (heavy weight surcharge)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for heavy containers weighing over a certain gross weight

Oxygen (O₂)

This is a colourless odourless gas which allows respiration by living things

P

Packing fee

Fee charged for stuffing a container or loading another unit load or transport device with cargo

Packing note

Document issued by the stuffing company or seller describing the contents of a container or other form of transport unit – includes the quantity, weight and description of each item

Pallet

Flat platform like structure, often made of wood, used for storing and transporting cargo which can be moved by mechanical handling equipment

Palletised cargo

A type of unitisation where cargo is placed onto to pallets to provide uniform shape and size



Palletwide container

Containers designed specifically to meet the size requirements of pallets (typically 2.49 or 2.5m wide) - common in European trades

Panama Canal

Manmade canal that crosses the Isthmus of Panama connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans reducing sailing distances for ships

Panama Canal surcharge (PCS)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for transiting the Panama Canal to cover canal toll costs

Panamax

Maximum size of ship capable of transiting the original Panama Canal locks – which for container ships is 294m long and 32.2m wide, equivalent to 13 rows across and a capacity of about 5,000 TEU

Panamax plus

Panamax ships which have a draft greater than the allowable maximum draft of the original canal locks at the time of their transit

Partial loss

When the repair required to a ship or cargo is less than the value of the ship or cargo that was damaged

Particular average

Principle in maritime law where a stakeholder involved in a sea voyage suffers damage or loss which does not directly affect another stakeholder – contrasts with general average which has a very specific meaning

Passive vents

Allow natural ventilation of a container through openings in the top and bottom of the box – they are designed not to allow spray or rain to enter container

Payload (actual net weight / actual payload)

The combined weight of cargo and any securing devices / material (dunnage) used to protect the cargo during transport

Example

Actual net weight = actual gross weight - tare 8,200kg = 11,000kg - 2,800kg

PCS (Panama Canal surcharge)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for transiting the Panama Canal to cover canal toll costs

PDM (physical distribution management)

Management of the movement of materials and foods from their origin to their destination – including transport, handling, inventory control, storage and packaging

Peak season surcharge (PSS)

A surcharge added to a freight rate when demand for shipping is at near supply levels – causing high slot utilisation on ships leading to operational inefficiencies and increased costs in providing the required container types and sizes

Pendulum rotation (service)

A rotation linking three or more trade regions – a ship loads cargo in the first region for ports in the second region and then loads cargo in the second region for ports in the next region and so on until the ship returns to the first region



Pendulum service (rotation)

A rotation linking three or more trade regions – a ship loads cargo in the first region for ports in the second region and then loads cargo in the second region for ports in the next region and so on until the ship returns to the first region

Periodic customs declaration message (CUSPED)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a party entering customs declaration to a Customs Authority to satisfy the periodic declaration of goods for import or export – may be used between shippers and between customs authorities

Periodic Examination Scheme (PES)

Container examination scheme based on fixed time intervals - the first inspection is 5 years from manufacture then within every subsequent 30 months thereafter

PES (Periodic Examination Scheme)

Container examination scheme based on fixed time intervals - the first inspection is 5 years from manufacture then within every subsequent 30 months thereafter

Pa

Measure of inertial gravitational force (g) acting on the payload (P) of a container



Physical distribution management (PDM)

Management of the movement of materials and foods from their origin to their destination — including transport, handling, inventory control, storage and packaging

Phytosanitary

Term relating to measures for the control of plant diseases, particularly in agricultural crops which are traded internationally

Phytosanitary certificate

A document that confirms goods consisting of plant related materials meet an importing country's requirements

Pickup (pre-carriage) fee

Fee charged for the pre-carriage of a container from its place of origin to the first port of loading

Pier pass fee

Fee charged in addition to the terminal handling charge at the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles for collecting a container by truck – fee is set by the terminal operators

Pilot

Person qualified to assist the Captain of a ship to navigate in confined waters or when entering or leaving a port

Pilotage

The activities performed by a pilot assisting the Captain of a ship to navigate when entering or leaving a port or in other confined waters

Pilotage dues

Fee charged to the operator of a ship for the provision of pilotage services in the approach channel and port area – the fee is compulsory and usually based on the gross registered tonnage (GRT) of the ship

Pin lock cone

A cone fitting that has a separate metal pin which is inserted into the cone through the corner fitting to secure a container

Piracy surcharge

A surcharge added to a freight rate for costs incurred transiting an area known to be at risk of piracy

Pitchina

Movement of a ship around its transverse axis the ship is lifted at the bow and lowered at the stern and vice versa



Placard

Term used in container transport specifically for the enlarged version of the diamond shaped danger label which has to be displayed on all four sides of a container to show the IMDG class of hazardous cargo stuffed in a container

Placard fee

Fee charged for putting a hazardous placard on a container

Placard removal fee

Fee charged for taking hazardous placards off a container

Platform container (flat rack)

Loadable platform giving flexibility in cargo loading and access - may be a simple platform or have collapsible or permanent ends



Plimsol line (international load line)

A marking positioned midships on a ship that indicates the maximum permitted draft in different types of water defined by the IMO Load Lines Convention

Pneumatic (un)loading

A method of loading / unloading using pumped air or gas to move the cargo through pipes / hoses

POD (port of discharge)

Port where a container is discharged (unloaded) from a ship

POL (port of loading)

Port where a container is loaded onto a ship

Port (ship) dues

A fee charged by a port authority for a ship entering a port – covers the cost of port infrastructure such as quay walls, roadways, dredging, navigation aids and pilotage

Port [1]

A commercial area with access to navigable water with facilities for ships to load and unloaded and where other maritime related activities are performed

Port [2]

Left hand side of a ship when facing forward

Port Authority

Organisation responsible for governing a port – usually a public body but it may be a private company

Port call

When a ship berths and spends time at a port

Port congestion (congestion) surcharge

A surcharge added to a freight rate for additional costs incurred by ships calling at ports suffering from excessive operational delays in servicing ships – may be due issues such as port worker strikes, bad weather, poor infrastructure or inadequate terminal capacity

Port dues

Fee charged to the operator of a ship by a port authority to cover the costs of facilities and services required to ensure the safe navigation of ships within the port itself e.g. dredging, navigational aids, vessel traffic services and pollution control

Port health

Government organisation responsible for inspecting foodstuffs and other natural products to check compliance with regulations

Port hole (con-air) container

One of the first types of reefer container, that were connected to on-board refrigeration systems using air ducts

Port infrastructure fee

Fee charged by a port authority to cover the costs of developing infrastructure

Port of discharge (POD)

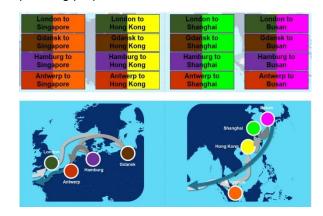
Port where a container is discharged (unloaded) from a ship

Port of loading (POL)

Port where a container is loaded onto a ship

Port pair

Term to describe the port of loading and port of discharge of a container which is used for ship planning purposes



Port throughput (throughput)

Amount of cargo loaded or unloaded by a port over a period of time – for example the number of tonnes, TEUs or passengers per year

Port to port (ocean) bill of lading

Bill of lading where the carrier's responsibility starts at the port of loading and ends at the port of discharge

Posts

Vertical structural members of a container frame, joining the top and bottom corner castings

Power supply fee

Fee charged per day for the supply of power to a reefer container

Powered (motorised or self-propelled) barge

A manned barge equipped with its own motor and navigation systems

Pre-carriage

The inland movement before a container is loaded on a ship at the first port of loading

Pre-carriage (pickup) fee

Fee charged for the pre-carriage of a container from its place of origin to the first port of loading

Pressurised containers

Containers built to withstand pressure greater than atmospheric pressure occurring during pneumatic loading / unloading or during the transport of cargo

Pre-trip inspection (PTI)

The inspection of an empty container before it is sent for stuffing to ensure it is structural sound, clean and any additional features function correctly e.g. to ensure reefer controls are in good working order

Pre-trip inspection (PTI) fee

Fee charged for inspecting an empty container before it is sent for stuffing to ensure it is structural sound, clean and any additional features function correctly e.g. to ensure reefer controls are in good working order

Price (rate) fixing

An agreement between companies supplying goods or services to control the price paid by buyers or by buyers to control the price they pay

Pro-forma invoice

Invoice issued in advance of a shipment to give an estimate of the value of goods to be shipped – often used as part of a letter of credit application

Project cargo

Cargo which is large and bulky or heavy which is critical to the timeline of completing a project

Provisional booking message (IFTMBP)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message sent by shipper as a provisional booking instruction for transport services

PSS (peak season surcharge)

A surcharge added to a freight rate when demand for shipping is at near supply levels — causing high slot utilisation on ships leading to operational inefficiencies and increased costs in providing the required container types and sizes

PTI (pre-trip inspection)

The inspection of an empty container before it is sent for stuffing to ensure it is structural sound, clean and any additional features function correctly e.g. to ensure reefer controls are in good working order

PTI (pre-trip inspection) fee

Fee charged for inspecting an empty container before it is sent for stuffing to ensure it is structural sound, clean and any additional features function correctly e.g. to ensure reefer controls are in good working order

Public (common) carrier

Organisation providing regular scheduled transport services to the public without discrimination – common carriers have a special status in law

Pull barge

A barge designed to be pulled by a tug or another barge

Pulling power

Amount of traction a locomotive(s) can create to pull a train set

Punctured (ripped) container

A container wall or roof pierced due to cargo movement or other forces

Push barge

A barge designed to be pushed by a tug or another barge

Push knee fender

The structure at the front of a tug which is used to connect the tug to a push barge

Push tug

Tug that moves barges by pushing rather than towing

Put away

Warehouse process of taking goods from point of receipt to placing them in a storage location

Pyramid stacking

The stepped stacking of block stowed containers to help reduce the strength of wind forces

Q

Quay (apron / quayside)

Area between the container yard and the waterfront - used to support the loading and discharge of ships

Quay transfer operation

Process of transferring containers between the quay and the container yard and vice versa

Quayside (apron / quay)

Area between the container yard and the waterfront - used to support the loading and discharge of ships

R

Racking

The transverse (across the width) or longitudinal (across the length) distortion of a container shape due to structural failure

Radio frequency identification (RFID)

Technology using radio waves to automatically identify objects - an RFID tag attached to the object transmits unique information which can be captured by a reader

Rail depot (rail terminal or railhead)

Facility linked to the rail network for containers arriving or departing by train

Rail mounted gantry crane (RMG)

Metal wheeled crane that travels along rails with a tall wide frame structure that extends across several container rows and one or more roadways for vehicles



Rail terminal (railhead or rail depot)

Facility linked to the rail network for containers arriving or departing by train

Railhead (rail terminal or rail depot)

Facility linked to the rail network for containers arriving or departing by train

Rate (price) fixing

An agreement between companies supplying goods or services to control the price paid by buyers or by buyers to control the price they pay

Rated capacity

Maximum load a crane is designed to lift or a vehicle is designed to transport safely under usual operating conditions

Related synonyms

Maximum load limit, rated load value, resulting safe working load, safe working load (SWL), working load limit (WLL)

Rated load value

Maximum load a crane is designed to lift or a vehicle is designed to transport safely under usual operating conditions

Related synonyms

Maximum load limit, rated capacity, resulting safe working load, safe working load (SWL), working load limit (WLL)

Ratified

The formal legal consent (agreement) to an international convention by a government state

Rating (maximum gross mass)

The maximum mass of a container including the container's tare mass, the mass of the cargo & any packaging or dunnage

Raw materials

Inputs to a production process which are modified or transformed into finished goods - for example coal, iron ore, crude oil, salt and grain

RDC (regional distribution centre)

Warehouse where products are collected, stored and consolidated before being redistributed to retailer stores, wholesalers or direct to consumers within a given area of a country

Reach stacker

Rubber tyred crane with a telescopic boom which is used for stacking and moving containers



Real time indexed service contract

A freight rate agreement covering a period of time where the rate is indexed to the spot freight rate adjusted based on the current spot market rates

Receipt

Operations involved in receiving an outbound container into a terminal from a truck, train or barge

Received bill of lading

Bill of lading that states the cargo has been received at the port of loading and is ready for loading

Reduced stacking strength

Containers tested and approved as having a reduced strength as defined by the Convention for Safe Containers (less than 192 tonnes at 1.8g stacking &/or less than 150kn racking strength)

Reefer (cold) supply chain

The planning, transport and storage of temperature-sensitive products along a supply chain

Reefer (refrigerated) ship

Ship equipped with holds that can be maintained at a desired temperature for the transport of perishable cargo requiring temperature controlled transportation

Reefer container

Common term used for a thermal container that has mechanical means of heating or cooling



Reefer plugs

Electrical sockets provided on ships and in terminals / depots to provide power to reefer containers

Reefer stack

Area within a container yard, which is equipped with power supply (reefer plugs) for reefer containers

Refrigerated (reefer) ship

Ship equipped with holds that can be maintained at a desired temperature for the transport of perishable cargo requiring temperature controlled transportation

Refrigerated cargo

Cargo which requires to be kept at a certain temperature to maintain its quality

Regional distribution centre (RDC)

Warehouse where products are collected, stored and consolidated before being redistributed to retailer stores, wholesalers or direct to consumers within a given area of a country

Regulatory inspection

Examinations performed by government bodies on containers/cargo to ensure they meet national and international regulations

Re-handle

The handling of cargo at a location during a shipment other than at its origin or final destination

Remain onboard (ROB)

A container/cargo that arrives at a terminal on a transport vehicle (ship, truck, train, barge) that departs on the same transport vehicle without being unloaded

Remote condition monitoring

The use of technology to remotely monitor the operation of equipment or reefer containers to provide real time data on their operation

Removing dunnage fee

Fee charged for taking out and disposing of dunnage from an empty container returned to a terminal

Repositioning move

A movement of a container in a container terminal associated with the performance of terminal functions – such as transporting a container from an empty stack to the CFS for stuffing purposes

Re-route

The changing of the route the cargo takes between the origin and the destination after the cargo has left the origin

Residual oil (heavy fuel oil / HFO / No. 6 fuel oil)

Low grade fuel oil that remains after all other distillates have been refined from crude oil which has traditionally been the main fuel oil for container ships – being phased out by Annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL Convention)

Resin

Sticky solid or highly viscous flammable substance which can be used for example to make plastics, adhesives or varnishes

Respiration

Process by which living organisms transform oxygen into carbon dioxide, heat and water

Restow

Movement of a container from one slot on a ship to a slot in another bay on the same ship - this may be direct or via the yard





Restraint

The securing of cargo, a container or other object to withstand movement during transport

Restuff

The act of unloading and reloading a container - possibly from a damaged container

Resulting safe working load

Maximum load a crane is designed to lift or a vehicle is designed to transport safely under usual operating conditions

Related synonyms

Maximum load limit, rated capacity, rated load value, safe working load (SWL), working load limit (WLL)

Revocable letter of credit

Letter of credit that can be changed or cancelled by the bank that issued it at any time or for any reason – less commonly used than an irrevocable letter of credit

RFID (radio frequency identification)

Technology using radio waves to automatically identify objects - an RFID tag attached to the object transmits unique information captured by a reader

Rigidity

Ability of a container to withstand transverse or longitudinal racking loads

Ripenina

Process in which fruit and vegetables become ready for eating

Ripped (punctured) container

A container wall or roof pierced due to cargo movement or other forces

River terminal

A freight terminal located inland on a river linking inland waterways to road and/or rail networks

RMG (rail mounted gantry crane)

Metal wheeled crane that travels along rails with a tall wide frame structure that extends across several container rows and one or more roadways for vehicles

Road chassis (road trailer)

Rubber tyred platform used to move cargo which is designed to be pulled by a tractor unit and is licenced for use on the national road network

Road consignment (CMR) note

Document issued as receipt for cargo by a road haulage company detailing standard transport and liability obligations – unlike a bill of lading it is not used as a document of title (proof of ownership)

Road tractor

Wheeled vehicle with a fifth wheel designed to pull trailers and other non-powered wheeled cargo which is licenced for use on the national road network

Road trailer (road chassis)

Rubber tyred platform used to move cargo which is designed to be pulled by a tractor unit and is licenced for use on the national road network

Road truck (external truck)

Vehicle that is designed and licenced for use on the national road network to carry cargo

ROB (remain onboard)

A container/cargo that arrives at a terminal on a transport vehicle (ship, truck, train, barge) that departs on the same transport vehicle without being unloaded

Roll trailer (MAFI)

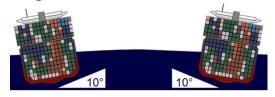
Heavy duty trailer which is designed for use in terminals and on RoRo ships

Roll wheel

Solid wheels often covered in rubber used on a roll trailer

Rolling

Movement of a ship around its longitudinal axis - resulting in side-to-side movement of the vessel



Roll-on roll-off (RoRo)

A (un)loading operation where cargo is driven between the quay and the ship by means of a ramp

Roof panel

Roof cover made from self-supporting corrugated panels or flat panels supported by roof bows (cross member supports)

RoRo (roll-on roll-off)

A (un)loading operation where cargo is driven between the quay and the ship by means of a ramp

Rotary (rotating) spreader

Spreader designed to rotate in either horizontal direction by up to 180 degrees when lifting an object

Rotating (rotary) spreader

Spreader designed to rotate in either horizontal direction by up to 180 degrees when lifting an object

Rotating hoist trolley (rotating trolley)

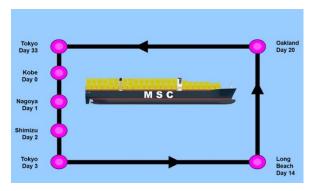
Trolley designed to rotate the spreader and cranes cabin horizontally

Rotating trolley (rotating hoist trolley)

Trolley designed to rotate the spreader and cranes cabin horizontally

Rotation

A planned itinerary of a container ship making a series of port calls starting and ending at the same port



Rotterdam Rules (2008)

UN convention concerning contracts for international carriage of goods by sea including multimodal shipments providing mandatory standards of liability for loss or damage – not in force due to lack of ratification by sufficient member states

Round-the-world rotation (service)

A rotation which involves a ship circumnavigating the earth in an eastbound or westbound direction starting and ending at the same port of call

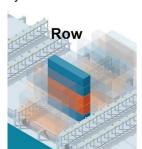


Round-the-world service (rotation)

A rotation which involves a ship circumnavigating the earth in an eastbound or westbound direction starting and ending at the same port of call

Row

Vertical stack of slots along the length of block or in a bay – part of the slot location referencing system





RTG (rubber tyred gantry crane)

A crane with a tall wide frame structure that extends across several container rows and a roadway for vehicles

Rubber tyred gantry crane (RTG)

A crane with a tall wide frame structure that extends across several container rows and a roadway for vehicles



S

Safe working load (SWL)

Maximum load a crane is designed to lift or a vehicle is designed to transport safely under usual operating conditions

Related synonyms

Maximum load limit, rated capacity, rated load value, resulting safe working load, working load limit (WLL)

Safety Approval Plate (SAP / CSC plate)

Permanent metal plaque attached to a container to show it meets the requirements of the CSC convention and has been regularly inspected and maintained



Safety margin

Additional strength incorporated into the design of an object (e.g. container) to allow for unforeseen or exceptional circumstances

Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention

International convention which sets minimum safety standards for the construction, equipment and operation of merchant ships – issued by the IMO

Sales contract

Formal agreement between a buyer and seller for the exchange of goods or services in return for payment – will include payment and delivery details as well assigning responsibilities for performance of the shipment

Santos emergency dredging surcharge (SED)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for ships using the Port of Santos in Brazil due to the port charging a fee for dredging

SAP (Safety Approval Plate / CSC plate)

Permanent metal plaque attached to a container to show it meets the requirements of the CSC convention and has been regularly inspected and maintained

SCFI (Shanghai export containerized freight index)

An index of spot freight rates including maritime related surcharges based on container shipments originating between Shanghai and 13 key destinations

SCM (supply chain management)

The management of the flow (movement and storage) of goods and services including all processes from raw materials to final products delivered to end consumers – the design, planning, execution, control and monitoring of supply chain activities

SCS (Suez Canal surcharge / STF)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for transiting the Suez Canal to cover the canal toll costs

Sea waybill

A document issued by a shipping line as receipt for cargo detailing the contract of carriage – unlike a bill of lading it is not a document of title (proof of ownership)

Seal

Used to ensure the integrity of a shipment by highlighting any unauthorised entry into the container

Second party logistics (2PL)

Where the transport of cargo is provided by a carrier – shipping line, rail operator, trucking company or inland waterway operator

SED (Santos emergency dredging surcharge)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for ships using the Port of Santos in Brazil due to the port charging a fee for dredging

Segregation

The storing / stowage of containers in separate areas / zones depending on the containers / cargo characteristics - e.g. hazardous cargo

Self-heating

The natural tendency for some cargoes to produce heat e.g. coal, fertilisers, charcoal, biomass, batteries and certain liquids

Self-propelled (powered or motorised) barge

A manned barge equipped with its own motor and navigation systems

Semi-processed goods

Processed items that must still be processed before becoming a finished good - for example steel into a shipping container

Semi-trailer

Trailer with no front axle, front weight is supported by a tractor unit, detachable axle, another trailer or if uncoupled retractable legs

Series 1 freight container

Container complying with all relevant ISO container standards in existence at time of manufacture (Series 2 and 3 were never adopted) - also known as ISO container

Series 2 freight container

Proposed container standard based on European rail containers - was never adopted and abandoned at the 1991 ISO meeting in Seoul, South Korea

Series 3 freight container

Proposed container standard based on USSR / Eastern European rail containers - never developed

Service contract

A freight rate agreement where a shipper agrees to ship a certain volume of cargo over a set period of time and a carrier agrees to provide a certain amount of space on ship at an agreed freight rate

SES (special equipment surcharge)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for providing a consignor with a container with special features e.g. hanging garment containers or open top containers

Set temperature fee

Fee charged for changing / setting the temperature of a reefer container

Shanghai export containerized freight index (SCFI)

An index of spot freight rates including maritime related surcharges based on container shipments originating between Shanghai and 13 key destinations

Sheeted (tarpaulin)

Waterproof sheet used to protect goods from rain and sea water (also known as tarps)

Shelf life

The number of days remaining before a perishable product is no longer fit for use or consumption

Shift

Movement of a container from one slot to another slot in the same bay of a ship (it is not via the quayside)

Shifting fee

Fee charged for an internal yard move requested by a carrier or shipper e.g. moving a container to and from a customs examination area

Ship (customs) manifest

Document required by Customs Authorities detailing all the cargo (containers) on a ship, its crew and passengers

Ship (port) dues

A fee charged by a port authority for a ship entering a port – covers the cost of port infrastructure such as quay walls, roadways, dredging, navigation aids and pilotage

Ship (stowage)planning

Planning the stowage location of cargo on a ship given the cargo characteristics, ship design and stability and the port pairs serviced

Ship movement

Motion of a ship as it sails – motions include pitching, rolling, yawing, heaving, swaying, surging and slamming

Ship's bridge

Part of the accommodation block of a vessel from which the ship's engines and navigation systems are controlled

Ship's rail to ship's rail

Traditional term used to identify when cargo is covered by maritime insurance rules – starting from when cargo passes over the ship's side (rail) during loading until it passes back over the ship's side during unloading

Shipped (onboard) bill of lading

Bill of lading that states the cargo has been loaded onboard the ship – often simply stamped "onboard"

Shipper

Informal term for a person or organisation who owns the cargo which is transported – may reference both consignors and consignees

Shippers export declaration

A document used by governments to collect data on export cargoes and its destinations

Shipping advice

Document issued by the consignor to the consignee after the cargo has been placed in the care of the carrier – confirms details of the carrier, bill of lading number and date, expected arrival date and container number(s)

Shipping conference (liner conference)

An agreement between shipping lines to provide a scheduled service on a particular trade route with uniform freight rates and terms of carriage – although still in existence the structure is becoming less common in shipping

Shipping instructions

Document issued by the consignor or their freight forwarder to the carrier which is used as the basis for issuing the bill of lading – contains contact details of consignor and consignee, origin and delivery locations, ports of loading and discharge, vessel(s), voyage(s) and cargo description

Shipping line alliance

Informal term for a vessel sharing agreement between shipping lines covering multiple trade routes

Ships gear bins (gear bins)

Storage units for twist locks which are transferred onto the quay during (un)loading operations

Ship's rail

Real or imaginary rail around the deck or edge of a ship – when cargo is being loaded and crosses this line it is considered to be onboard the ship

Ship-to-shore (STS) gantry crane

Quay mounted cranes which operate along rails designed to (un)load ships - has many name variations including STS crane, quay crane and A-frame quay crane



Short sea

Coastal trade within or between countries in a region or continent, e.g. Europe and Baltic regions - typically short sea vessels are relatively small in size

Shunter (terminal tractor / tug)

Wheeled vehicle with a fifth wheel designed to pull trailers and other non-powered wheeled cargo but is not licenced for used on the national road network

Shuttle carrier

A form of straddle carrier designed specifically for the horizontal transport of containers – it is not used to stack containers in the main yard



Side & end wall profile

Walls typically manufactured from steel, usually with a corrugated profile which helps strengthen the container structure

Side guides

Strong steel posts on trailers and other container carrying vehicles that help correctly position a container as it is lowered on to the trailer / vehicle





Side lift spreader (container attachment)

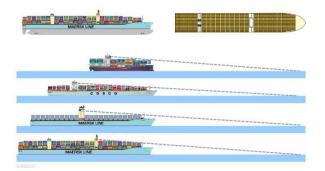
A term sometimes used when referring to the spreader device of a top pick or empty handler

Side rolling hatch covers

Hatch covers that can be mechanically moved athwartships (or across the width of a ship) to allow access to the hold

Sightline

The uninterrupted view of an object from a person's eye



Sill beam

The lowest horizontal steel member (beam) of a cranes framework

Size code

Two-digit code for the external dimensions of a container (length, height, width) - forms the first two digits of the size type code

Size type code

Term for a 4-digit code that consists of the Size Code and Type Code - found next to or under the container number



Size type code (1984)

Four-digit numerical code that consists of the size code and type code – found next to or under the container number

Size type code (1984) digit 1 Numerical digit based on the length of the container and if it is ISO standard or not - assumes 10, 20, 30 and 40ft containers are ISO standard and other lengths are not.

Size type code (1984) digit 2 Numerical digit based on the height of the container and if a gooseneck is present – the container is assumed to be 8ft wide

Size type code (1984) digits 3 & 4 Numerical digits to categorise the type and sub-type of containers respectively

Size type code (1995)

Four-digit alpha numerical code that consists of the size code and type code – found next to or under the container number

Size type code (1995) digit 1 In an amendment to the 1984 format there is now a numerical digit for 10, 20, 30 and 40ft containers, and an alpha character for all other lengths – the ISO standard assumption is removed

Size type code (1995) digit 2 In an amendment to the 1984 format container width is now incorporated and gooseneck marker removed – 8ft wide containers are given a numerical code and containers >8ft wide given an alpha code

Size type code (1995) digits 3 & 4 In an amendment to the 1984 format the numerical third digit is replaced by an alpha character – the fourth digit remains numerical

Size type code (2012 amendment)

Four-digit alpha numerical code that consists of the size code and type code – found next to or under the container number

Size type code (2012 amendment) digit 1 Unchanged from 1995 – keeping the numerical digit for 10, 20, 30 and 40ft containers, and the alpha character for all others

Size type code (2012 amendment) digit 2 Unchanged from 1995 – 8ft wide containers given a numerical code and containers >8ft given an alpha code

Size type code (2012 amendment) digits 3 & 4 Major amendment over 1995 standard, digit 3 remains an alpha character but digit 4 is now numerical for containers designed to full ISO stacking strength and alpha for those of reduced stacking strength.

Skipped (blank / void) sailing (voyage)

A scheduled voyage or entire rotation that is withdrawn by a shipping line – usually to reduce capacity on the trade in response to a lack of demand

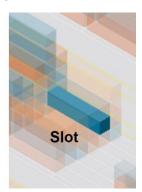
Skipped (blank / void) voyage (sailing)

A scheduled voyage or entire rotation that is withdrawn by a shipping line – usually to reduce capacity on the trade in response to a lack of demand

Slot

A container stowage location in a yard or on a ship or other transport mode





Slot charter

A charter arrangement by a shipping line (A) to lease slot space on a service operated by another shipping line (B) – the slot space is paid for by Shipping Line A whether the slots are used or not

SMDG

A not for profit organisation run by parties in the container industry which defines and promotes EDI message standards – www.smdg.org

SMGS consignment note

Document issued as receipt for cargo by a rail company operating in Russia, China and East Asia detailing standard transport and liability obligations – unlike a bill of lading it is not a document of title

SOLAS (Safety of Life at Sea) Convention International convention which sets minimum

safety standards for the construction, equipment and operation of merchant ships – issued by the IMO

South-South trade

Trade routes between Australasia, Asia, Africa and South America

Span

The working width of a crane – e.g. it may be expressed as 6 + 2 where 6 would be the number of container rows and 2 would be the number of vehicle lanes



Special equipment surcharge (SES)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for providing a consignor with a container with special features e.g. hanging garment containers or open top containers

Special handling order message (COHAOR)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners to order handling services such as moving a container to a customs examination area, container fumigation or cleaning area

Split bridge & engine layout

Where a ship's superstructure is separated into two sections – the bridge and accommodation towards the fore and the engine towards the aft

Spot freight rate

A one-off freight rate offered by a carrier to a consignor which covers a single shipment, often restricted to a specific voyage – spot freight rates fluctuate up and down constantly depending on supply and demand

Spreader

A device which is attached to a quay crane or other handling equipment to lift containers, hatch covers and sometimes other types of cargo



Stack height

Number of containers placed on top of each other - maximum height depends on many issues including container type & strength, weight and equipment

Stacking cone (cone / cone fitting)

A conical metal device inserted into corner fittings to help secure stacked containers - they may be non-locking or have a pin lock or twist lock mechanism.

Stacking density

Number of containers that can be placed on a given area of land which is largely dependent on the handling equipment of the terminal

Stacking fittings and cones

Used to secure containers to each other or the transport mode and prevents horizontal movement of stacked containers

Stacking hatch covers

Hatch covers consisting of multiple panels that roll on top of one other to allow access to the hold

Stacking strength

The maximum load that an object has been designed to have placed on it such that under anticipated stress and strains the object does not become damaged

Stale bill of lading

A bill of lading presented to a bank or the consignee after the cargo has arrived at the final destination or after the date required by a letter of credit

Standardisation

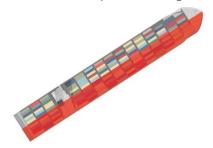
Process of removing variability and increasing consistency at an industry, national or international level

Star lashing fitting (cloverleaf socket)

A socket on the deck of a ship in the shape of a star used to insert lashing and securing devices

Starboard

Right hand side of a ship when facing forward



Static (dead) load

Load exerted on an object (such as the yard pavement) which is constant over time – e.g. the weight of a stack of containers in a yard

Sterr

The rear of a ship, also known as the aft end

Stevedore

An organisation or person performing the un(loading) of cargo from / to ships

Stevedoring fee

Fee charged for (un)loading containers (cargo) and performing the quay transfer operations

STF (SCS / Suez Canal surcharge)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for transiting the Suez Canal to cover the canal toll costs

Stock (inventory) control

The process of managing and optimising stored goods and parts without impacting availability levels

Stock throughput insurance

Insurance that covers goods before, during and after transportation – includes storage at the place of production and at the final destination (warehouse, factory or retail store)

Stowage

Process of loading cargo so as to protect it and the transport means (container, ship, truck, rail wagon) - also used for the act of putting cargo into storage

Stowage (ship) planning

Planning the stowage location of cargo on a ship given the cargo characteristics, ship design and stability and the port pairs serviced

Strad (straddle carrier / van)

Rubber tyred crane which has a spreader between its legs to lift and carry containers and can travel over (astride) a single row of containers

Straddle carrier (strad / van)

Rubber tyred crane which has a spreader between its legs to lift and carry containers and can travel over (astride) a single row of containers



Strain (deformation)

Distortion of an object resulting from stress - the change may be temporary and the object returns to its original state or it may be permanent

Stress

The force applied to an area of an object – may be unevenly distributed and can be static or dynamic

Stripping (devanning / outturn / unstuffing)

The act of unloading cargo from a container

Structural failure

Loss of load carrying strength of a container due to for example the lack of maintenance, wear and tear or overloading

STS (ship-to-shore) gantry crane

Quay mounted cranes which operate along rails designed to (un)load ships - has many name variations including STS crane, quay crane and A-frame quay crane

Stuffing

The act of loading cargo into a container

Stuffing or stripping confirmation message (COSTCO)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners confirming an LCL container has been stuffed or unstuffed

Stuffing or stripping order message (COSTOR)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners ordering the stuffing or unstuffing of an LCL container

Suez Canal

Manmade canal that connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea through the Isthmus of Suez

Suez Canal surcharge (SCS / STF)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for transiting the Suez Canal to cover the canal toll costs

Superimposed mass

The placing of a load force on an object, usually for testing purposes



Superstructure

Fixed parts of a ship above the main deck which includes the bridge, accommodation areas, navigation masts and ship's gear

Supply chain

A system of organisations, activities, information and resources that contribute to moving a product or service from a supplier to a customer – includes all stages from raw materials to end consumer including the management of used products

Supply chain management (SCM)

The management of the flow (movement and storage) of goods and services including all processes from raw materials to final products delivered to end consumers – the design, planning, execution, control and monitoring of supply chain activities

Supply chain network

The evolution of individual supply chains into a large network of organisations with a high level of inter-dependency and connectivity – consists of external suppliers, production centres, distribution centres, demand areas and transportation assets often at a global scale

Swapbody

Container like intermodal units designed to compete against long haul road transport in Europe - typically they have frames of lesser strength than Series 1 ISO freight containers

Switch bill of lading

A replacement bill of lading issued by the carrier on submission of the original bill of lading – may be due to a change in details required to be shown on the bill of lading

SWL (safe working load)

Maximum load a crane is designed to lift or a vehicle is designed to transport safely under usual operating conditions

Related synonyms

Maximum load limit, rated capacity, rated load value, resulting safe working load, working load limit (WLL)

T

Taint

When a substance causes contamination, decay or putrefaction in another substance e.g. by changing the other substances smell or taste

Tally

To physically count and confirm the number of items of cargo in a consignment

Tamper proof

Item designed to ensure that any interference or change to it can be easily identified

Tank container

Container suited to the carriage of gases, liquids or powders which are (un)loaded typically by pneumatic means



Tank contents, stores and other non-cargo items message (TANSTA)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a ship owner or carrier to a terminal providing details of the current or forecast condition of a ship – contents of ballast tanks, fuel tanks, water tanks and other data needed to calculate vessel stability

Tank top

The steel plates which provide the floor to a ship's hold and protect the tanks and machine spaces below the hold

TANSTA (tank contents, stores and other non-cargo items message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message from a ship owner or carrier to a terminal providing details of the current or forecast condition of a ship – contents of ballast tanks, fuel tanks, water tanks and other data needed to calculate vessel stability

Tare weight

The weight of an empty container, excluding cargo, packaging and dunnage

Tarpaulin (sheeted)

Waterproof sheet used to protect goods from rain and sea water (also known as tarps)

TC (total cost)

An economic term for the total expenses incurred to reach a level of production output

Telescopic boom

A boom that can be extended to increase the outreach of a crane

Telescopic spreader

A spreader which can be manually or electronically lengthened or shortened to lift different containers lengths

Telex (EDI) release fee

Fee charged for sending forms and messages to a terminal, customs or other government agency – may be charged by a freight forwarder

Temperate

Areas located between subtropics and polar circles where differences between summer and winter temperatures may be considerable

Temperature abuse

When a product is subjected to temperatures above or below what it should be transported / stored at which impacts its quality and shelf life

Temperature history fee

Fee charged for obtaining and providing temperature history data for a reefer container

Terminal chassis (bombcart / terminal trailer)

Rubber tyred platform used to move cargo which is designed to be pulled by a terminal tractor – it is not licenced for used on the national road network

Terminal handing charge (THC)

Fee charged by the carrier to the consignor or consignee for a container handled at the port of export and import – it does not relate to the fee charged by a terminal to a carrier for loading or unloading the container

Terminal operator

Organisation with responsibility for the operational management of cargo handling and storage activities within a port

Terminal performance report message (TPFREP)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners sent by a terminal once a ship departs giving information on the operational activities performed during the port call

Terminal tractor (shunter / tug)

Wheeled vehicle with a fifth wheel designed to pull trailers and other non-powered wheeled cargo but is not licenced for used on the national road network



Terminal tractor trailer (terminal truck)

A terminal tractor connected to a trailer

Terminal trailer (bombcart / terminal chassis)

Rubber tyred platform used to move cargo which is designed to be pulled by a terminal tractor – it is not licenced for used on the national road network

Terminal truck (terminal tractor trailer)

A terminal tractor connected to a trailer

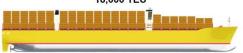
TEU (twenty foot equivalent unit)

Measurement unit for containers based on a standard 20ft nominal length known as a TEU e.g. a 20ft container = 1 TEU and a 40ft container = 2 TEU

TEU capacity

Nominal maximum number of containers a transport vehicle can carry





TEU km

Measure of container transport production – 1 TEU km is the movement of 1 TEU a distance of 1 km

THC (terminal handing charge)

Fee charged by the carrier to the consignor or consignee for a container handled at the port of export and import – it does not relate to the fee charged by a terminal to a carrier for loading or unloading the container

Third party logistics (3PL)

Where a transport service provider to a consignee or consignor has a financial interest in part of the transport offering including added value services such as warehousing, terminal operations or simple manufacturing activities such as packaging or labelling – may be a major freight forwarder or courier company

Through bill of lading

Bill of lading covering the ocean portion of a shipment that includes more than one mode of transport – carrier is only responsible for the ocean section

Throughput (port throughput)

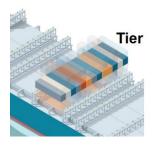
Amount of cargo loaded or unloaded by a port over a period of time – for example the number of tonnes, TEUs or passengers per year

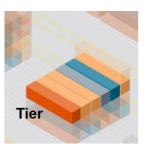
Tide

Natural variation in water height due to the attraction of the moon and sun which varies by the tidal day (24 hours and 50 minutes) and the lunar month (29 days, 12 hours, 44 minutes and 2.8 seconds)

Tier

Horizontal layer of slots in a block or bay – part of the slot location referencing system





Tilting spreader

Spreader designed to tilt in either longitudinal direction by up to 60 degrees when lifting an object

Time abuse

The period of time a temperature sensitive product is held at a temperature above or below its recommended level (see temperature abuse)

Time-lag indexed service contract

A freight rate agreement covering a period of time where the rate is indexed to the spot freight rate adjusted with a time-lag e.g. adjusted based on the spot market over the past month or 3 months

Tonnage centre

The shipping line's office responsible for coordinating the stowage of container ships in a region – will seek to maximise utilization of slots whilst minimising the number of overstowed containers while taking account of ship stability and safety

Tonne bags

Single use bag type packaging for dry bulk cargo which is designed to carry up to one tonne in weight



Top side rails

Steel rails forming the upper part of the container frame

Top pick

Rubber tyred crane with a mast that stacks and moves containers by locking onto the containers four top corner castings



Total cost (TC)

An economic term for the total expenses incurred to reach a level of production output

Total journey time

Time taken for goods to be transported door-todoor (from their originating location to their final destination)

Total loss (write-off)

Term in insurance where the loss value or cost to salvage damaged cargo or the ship exceeds its insured value

Towage

The work of a tug boat assisting a ship in manoeuvring in confined waters or when entering or leaving a port – also the pulling or pushing a dumb barge or other obstacle without power through the water

Towage fee

Fee charged to the operator of a ship for the provision of towage services – often an hourly based fee depending on the type and size of a ship

Tower (crane tower)

Vertical structure of a crane from which the boom is attached

TPFREP (terminal performance report message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners sent by a terminal once a ship departs giving information on the operational activities performed during the port call

Tracto

General term for a wheeled vehicle designed to pull trailers and other non-powered wheeled cargo – these include road tractors and terminal tractors



Trade lane (route)

An expression consisting of two geographical regions that indicates the flow of cargo, the first region is where the cargo originates from and the second the destination region – EG Asia to Africa or South America to North Europe

Trade route (lane)

An expression consisting of two geographical regions that indicates the flow of cargo, the first region is where the cargo originates from and the second the destination region – EG Asia to Africa or South America to North Europe

Trailer (chassis)

General term for wheeled vehicles without power which provides a platform on which cargo can be transported – examples include road trailers, roll trailers and terminal trailers

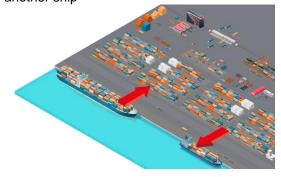


Train set

A collection of rail wagons and locomotives coupled together to form a train

Transhipment

The transfer of a container/cargo from one ship to another ship



Transhipment containers

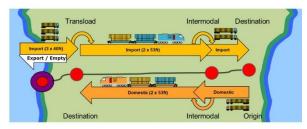
The transfer of full or empty containers at a terminal from one ship to another ship

Transit containers

An international container shipment moving through a country to/from an inland location in another country where the goods originate from or are destined for

Transloading

The transfer of cargo from one transport vehicle or unit load device to another transport vehicle or unit load device



Transpiration

The loss of moisture from an organism leading to dehydration

Transport mode

Refers to the transport type or method used to transport cargo - in container shipping the transport modes are ship, truck, train and inland barge

Transverse

Across the width of an object (e.g. container)

Transverse racking

The transverse (across the width) distortion of a container shape due to structural failure

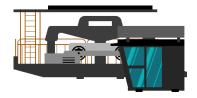


Tri-modal crane

Crane that is capable of servicing three inland transport modes

Trolley (hoisting trolley)

Structure which travels along a cranes boom and from which hoist ropes and a lifting device such as a hook or spreader are suspended



Tropical

Consistently warm / hot areas, located between Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn

Truck (lorry)

General term for a vehicle designed to transport cargo which may be rigid (integrated) or articulated (connected to a trailer) in design – they include both road and terminal vehicles

Tug (shunter / terminal tractor)

Wheeled vehicle with a fifth wheel designed to pull trailers and other non-powered wheeled cargo but is not licenced for used on the national road network

Tug (tugboat)

Small vessel with a powerful engine used to assist the manoeuvring of ships or barges

Tugboat (tug)

Small vessel with a powerful engine used to assist the manoeuvring of ships or barges

Tweendecker ship

The type of ship used for carrying general cargo before containerisation - it had holds aft and forward and the ship was always geared

Twenty foot equivalent unit (TEU)

Measurement unit for containers based on a standard 20ft nominal length known as a TEU e.g. a 20ft container = 1 TEU and a 40ft container = 2 TEU

Twin lift

The simultaneous lifting of two 20ft containers by a single spreader

Twinning

When two cranes work together to lift a heavy load



Twist lock

Device which is inserted in the corner casting of a container for securing and lifting purposes - it is turned or twisted to lock or unlock



Type code

Two-digit code which categorises containers based on their design for cargo - forms the second two digits of the size type code



UCP (Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits)

Rules issued by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) relating to letter of credit transactions and the physical and electronic presentation of documents – UCP 600 came into effect in July 2007

UIRR (International Union of Combined Road-Rail Transport Companies)

Industry association for operators and terminals linking road and rail freight with a focus on intermodal and combined transport in Europe

UK Navigation Act (1651)

Law developed to promote and regulate English shipping sector and trade with other countries – included the banning of foreign ships transporting goods between ports in the British Empire

ULCS (ultra large container ship) / vessel (ULCV)

A fully cellular container ship with a capacity of 12,000 TEU or more

ULCV (ultra large container vessel) / ship (ULCS)

A fully cellular container ship with a capacity of 12,000 TEU or more

Ullage (headspace)

The free (empty) space in a tank or container used to carry bulk liquid or dry bulk – often used to allow for the expansion of the cargo transported

ULSFO (ultra-low sulphur fuel oil)

A distillate fuel oil which has a sulphur content of less than 0.1%

Ultra large container ship (ULCS) / vessel (ULCV)

A fully cellular container ship with a capacity of 12,000 TEU or more

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A fully cellular container ship with a capacity of 12,000 TEU or more

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A distillate fuel oil which has a sulphur content of less than 0.1%

UN/EDIFACT (United Nations / Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport)

A set of syntax rules to structure data to support the use or electronic data interchange between trading partners – approved by the ISO [see United Nations / Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport for related terms]

Unaccompanied trailer

A trailer licenced to be used on the national road network that is shipped port-to-port without a road tractor unit

Unberthing (unmooring) fee

Fee charged for carrying out the untying of a ship – often based on the size of the ship

Unclean (claused / dirty / foul) bill of lading

Bill of lading that has text referring to any adverse condition of the cargo e.g. may state damage such as "cargo received wet"

UNCON (Uncontainerisable cargo)

Cargo that is transported by ship but has not been stuffed into a container

Uncontainerisable cargo (UNCON)

Cargo that is transported by ship but has not been stuffed into a container

Under (below) deck

Where cargo such as containers is transported below the hatch covers (deck) of a ship where it is protected from the environment (e.g. wind and waves)

Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits (UCP)

Rules issued by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) relating to letter of credit transactions and the physical and electronic presentation of documents – UCP 600 came into effect in July 2007

Unit load

System of combining separate pieces of cargo into a single object with standardised dimensions, shape and maximum weight to allow mechanical handling



United Nations / Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (UN/EDIFACT)

A set of syntax rules to structure data to support the use or electronic data interchange between trading partners - approved by the ISO

Syntax rules

- Application error & acknowledgement message (APERAK)
- Arrival notice message (IFTMAN)
- Bay plan message (BAPLIE)
- Bay plan or stowage plan total numbers message (BAPLTE)
- Berth management message (BERMAN)
- Booking confirmation message (IFTMBC)
- Call information (vessel) message (CALINF)
- Container announcement message (COPARN)
- Container discharge or load report message (COARRI)
- Container discharge or loading order message (COPRAR)
- · Container gate in or gate out report message (CODECO)
- Container pre-notification message (COPINO)
- Container release order message (COREOR)
- Container stock report message (COEDOR)
- Customs cargo report message (CUSCAR)
- Customs conveyance report message (CUSREP)
- Customs declaration message (CUSDEC)
- Customs express consignment declaration message (CUSEXP)
- Customs response message (CUSRES)
- Dangerous cargo list message (IFTIAG)
- Dangerous goods notification message (IFTDGN)
- Equipment damage or repair estimate message (DESTIM)
- Firm booking message (IFTMBF)
- Forwarding & consolidation summary message (IFCSUM)
- Forwarding & transport schedule & availability information message (IFTSAI)
- Freight statement message (IFTFCA)
- Instruction contract message (IFTMCS)
- Instruction message (IFTMIN)
- International multimodal status message (IFTSTA)
- International transport freight costs & other charges message (IFTFCC)
- Move instruction message (MOVINS)
- Periodic customs declaration message (CUSPED)

- Provisional booking message (IFTMBP)
- Special handling order message (COHAOR)
- Stuffing or stripping confirmation message (COSTCO)
- Stuffing or stripping order message (COSTOR)
- Tank contents, stores and other non-cargo items message (TANSTA)
- Terminal performance report message (TPFREP)
- Verified gross mass message (VERMAS)
- Vessel departure message (VESDEP)
- Waste disposal information message (WASDIS)

Unitisation

The grouping of individual cargo units into a larger single unit that may be handled by mechanical means

Unmooring (unberthing) fee

Fee charged for carrying out the untying of a ship - often based on the size of the ship

Unproductive move

A non-revenue earning movement of a container, within a container terminal, to gain access to another container required for operational purposes

Unsafe container

Container with one or more serious defects in structurally sensitive components as defined by the Convention for Safe Containers

Unstuffing (devanning / outturn / stripping)

The act of unloading cargo from a container

Van (straddle carrier / strad)

Rubber tyred crane which has a spreader between its legs to lift and carry containers and can travel over (astride) a single row of containers

Vehicle appointment fee

Fee charged by a terminal operator to a trucking company to make a reservation for a truck to enter the terminal to deliver or pickup a container

Vehicle detention (driver waiting time) fee

Fee charged for delaying a truck while it is delivering or collecting a container at the (un)stuffing location beyond the free time allowed in the contract of carriage

Ventilated container

Form of general purpose container with ventilation provided through vents or mechanical means to manage moisture levels and air quality in the container

Ventilation

The process of introducing fresh air into an enclosed space, such as a container

Venting fee

Fee charged for venting (refreshing) the air within a container – typically associated with an imported container that has previously been fumigated

Verified gross mass (VGM)

The combined weight of cargo, dunnage and the container tare that must be declared prior to a container being loaded on a vessel – a mandatory requirement for shippers under SOLAS

Verified gross mass (VGM) declaration

Submission by the exporter of the combined weight of the cargo, any packing and dunnage and the tare weight of the container – a requirement under SOLAS

Verified gross mass message (VERMAS)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners for shippers to submit the verified gross mass of a container as required by SOLAS

VERMAS (verified gross mass message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners for shippers to submit the verified gross mass of a container as required by SOLAS

Vertical tandem lifts

Lifting two or more containers vertically whilst linked by twist locks, a controversial lifting method not universally allowed - covered in ISO standard 3874

VESDEP (vessel departure message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners sent by a carrier to provide departure confirmation of a ship

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UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message between trading partners sent by a carrier to provide departure confirmation of a ship

Vessel owning common carrier (VOCC)

A shipping line with the legal status and ability to limit its liability as a common carrier who provides sea transport and operates its own vessels

Vessel sharing agreement (VSA)

The joint provision of ships by two or more shipping lines to provide scheduled services where slots on each ship are shared between the shipping lines – a global alliance is an example of a VSA



Vessel traffic system (VTS)

A system that monitors and controls the movement and location of ships at a port or in a confined waterway

Veterinary certificate

A document that confirms livestock or goods consisting of animal related material meet an importing country's sanitary requirements and are free of disease

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Void (blank / skipped) sailing (voyage)

A scheduled voyage or entire rotation that is withdrawn by a shipping line – usually to reduce capacity on the trade in response to a lack of demand

Void (blank / skipped) voyage (sailing)

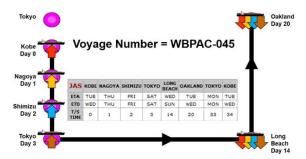
A scheduled voyage or entire rotation that is withdrawn by a shipping line – usually to reduce capacity on the trade in response to a lack of demand

Voyage

A series of port calls within a rotation which are marketed by a shipping line to shippers – each voyage is given a unique voyage number

Voyage number

The unique identifier given by a shipping line to a segment of a rotation with ports of loading and discharge which is marketed by a shipping line to shippers



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VTS (vessel traffic system)

A system that monitors and controls the movement and location of ships at a port or in a confined waterway

W

War risks surcharge (WRS)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for costs caused by a ship having to enter an area where there are risks associated with war

Warehouse (dock) receipt

Document confirming goods have been received at a terminal or warehouse and are ready for transport – used where the seller is not responsible for transporting the goods to the final destination

Warehouse fee

Fee charged for storing cargo in a warehouse – may include the storage of a container at an inland depot

Warehouse-to-warehouse clause

Insurance clause giving cover to loss or damage to cargo from the moment it leaves the originating warehouse to the moment it arrives at the destination warehouse

WASDIS (waste disposal information message)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message giving information on the last inspection of a transport vehicle (ship) detailing waste or cargo residue onboard which still has to be disposed of at the next port of call – to control pollution caused by waste disposal at sea

Waste disposal information message (WASDIS)

UN/EDIFACT EDI format for a message giving information on the last inspection of a transport vehicle (ship) detailing waste or cargo residue onboard which still has to be disposed of at the next port of call — to control pollution caused by waste disposal at sea

Watchkeeping

A crewing rota system to ensure the safe navigation and operation of a ship 24 hours a day

Water depth

Vertical difference between the top of the water (still water) and the sea or river floor

WCO (World Customs Organization)

Independent intergovernmental which seeks to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of Customs administrations

Weather deck

The uppermost deck of a ship which extends the length of the ship and is exposed to the weather

Weatherproof

Design of an object e.g. container to prevent wind or rain from entering its structure

Weight

An objects mass x gravity measured in Newtons

Wharfage (cargo) dues

A fee charged by a port authority for cargo imported or exported from a port to cover the cost of port infrastructure – may be an ad valorem based fee

Wheel load weight

Measure of the amount of weight that is passed through a wheel onto a given area of surface, such as a container floor

Winter surcharge

A surcharge added to a freight rate for costs caused by calling at a port due to harsh weather, ice conditions or the need for the use of ice breakers

Wire lift fee

Fee charged when a spreader cannot be used to lift a container and a wire and hook must be used

WLL (working load limit)

Maximum load a crane is designed to lift or a vehicle is designed to transport safely under usual operating conditions

Related synonyms

Maximum load limit, rated capacity, rated load value, resulting safe working load, safe working load (SWL)

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Related synonyms

Maximum load limit, rated capacity, rated load value, resulting safe working load, safe working load (SWL)

World Customs Organization (WCO)

Independent intergovernmental which seeks to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of Customs administrations

Write-off (total loss)

Term in insurance where the loss value or cost to salvage damaged cargo or the ship exceeds its insured value

WRS (war risks surcharge)

A surcharge added to a freight rate for costs caused by a ship having to enter an area where there are risks associated with war



Y

Yard (container yard)

The location in a terminal where containers are stored whilst waiting onward movement

Yard roadways

Paved surfaces in a terminal yard used by trucks and mobile equipment

York-Antwerp rules

Rules defined in international conventions which govern general average – although not yet international law they are incorporated into many contracts of carriage by sea

Z

NowLearn.net



You may experience the courses and the LMS functionality by visiting NowLearn.net and clicking on the Preview Courses that are available.

You can view the structure of each course and listen to the first 3 to 4 minutes of each part of the 12 units available through the two courses.

Light versions of other features such as Course Workbooks and the Glossary may also be accessed in the preview modes.

Learning Management System

NowLearn.net is the Learning Management System (LMS) developed by J&S Maritime. Once enrolled in a course the LMS guides students through each unit which typically consist of two 35-minute interactive learning presentations followed by a graded tutorial. Once a learner achieves a grade of 70% or higher, they are then given access to the content of the next unit.

Content: Audio; Notes & Workbook

Courses are fully scripted allowing the learner to listen, read online and read offline the script of the content as they progress through the training. Learners enrolling in a course are provided with a pdf version of the accompanying workbook which includes the script, glossary terms and getting started instructions. The workbook acts as a reference guide for learners while taking tutorials, allowing them to research answers and use data tables and refer to diagrams.

Tutorials

Tutorials have been developed to encourage learners to reflect on the content and to apply concepts and subject matter to applied situations using the course workbook and glossary as reference material. A tutorial may be taken multiple times with each attempt consisting of a different series of questions.

Online Glossary

All key terms used in the training are defined in the glossary which is available to learners within the interactive content of each unit with accompanying audio and a pdf Glossary. A sitewide online searchable glossary is also available to learners which contains illustrated key terms from all courses and additional industry vocabulary.

Video Collection

A collection of actual time and timelapse video clips of one minute or longer are available to support the training courses. Specialised collections are being added to the Introduction to Containerisation course to support the content of each unit and a NowLearn.net wide searchable video collection is available of video clips.

Contact details

Should you require further information on the eLearning courses, pricing levels or how to enrol learners then email jeffmartin@jandsmaritime.com.

Introduction to Containerisation



15 hours of learning on the container industry including details about containers, ships, terminals, handling equipment and inland transportation.

This course is suited to anyone engaged in the container transport industry from front line staff to senior managers who want to expand their knowledge of the sector

Unit 1: Container Types

The unit examines the way containers have been adapted to carry different types of cargo. As well as the general purpose container, you will examine thermal containers (commonly known as reefers), tanks, platforms, open top, dry bulk and specialist containers designed for a specific cargo such as livestock or steel coils. Users will be introduced to the wide variety of cargoes transported by container and be shown a range of methods used to (un)load containers.

Unit 2: Container Carrying Ships

The unit examines ships which transport containers, giving details of their layout and the way in which they are loaded and unloaded. LoLo and RoRo operations are demonstrated in the different ship types as well as types of hatch covers and securing methods. Part A covers geared cellular, fully cellular container ships and multipurpose ships. In Part B hybrid ships (reefer and ConRo) are covered as well as barges and tugs.

Unit 3: Container Terminals

The unit introduces the characteristics and operations of a container terminal. Firstly the role and characteristics of container terminals are examined, then the different types of container stacks and the various functions and activities carried out in the terminal. In the second part, the different flows of containers through a terminal are examined (export, import, transit and transhipment) as well as those related to CFS work. Finally, the different container moves related to ship and terminal operations are described.

Unit 4: Handling Equipment 1

This unit introduces ship-to-shore and yard cranes. For each type of equipment, you will be given an overview of their design and functions as well as key terminology used. Specific use is made of videos to help you identify the different types of terminal equipment as well as appreciate the way in which they operate.

Unit 5: Handling Equipment 2

This unit introduces mobile cranes and terminal transfer vehicles. For each type of equipment, you will be given an overview of their design and functions as well as key terminology used. Specific use is made of videos to help you identify the different types of terminal equipment as well as appreciate the way in which they operate.

Unit 6: Container Transport

This unit examines the door-to-door transport of containers. The first part of the unit looks at the term TEU before examining the size and capacity of container ships and the complexity of ship planning and container stowage. The second part focuses on inland transport vehicles and the benefits of intermodalism.

The Container Box



15 hours of technical learning on the dimensions, standards, information codes, design and regulations of the container box.

This course is targeted at those whose role is operationally based and those that want to learn more about the container sector.

Unit 1: External Dimensions

The unit examines the wide variety of external length, height and width dimensions associated with containers. In the first part of the unit you will learn about the development of standard container sizes, the container designation coding system that is used by the ISO and the existence of non-ISO container sizes. The second part of the unit focuses on the impact of container size variation on planning and operations for transport and terminal operators.

Unit 2 ISO & Containerisation

The first part of the unit examines the early development of the ISO series 1 freight container and the early focus of Technical Committee 104 (ISO/TC 104) and the modern role of the ISO, its processes and the document types. The second part introduces the key standards relating to the container sector and gives an overview of ISO 6346 on codes, identification and container marking. The 15 standards managed by ISO/TC 104 are examined covering physical design of containers, their handling, data exchange and electronic technology.

Unit 3: Container Numbers

The unit defines the container number, developed by the ISO, to uniquely identify each container in circulation. The structure of the number and the processes involved in issuing a container number are explained. Users will learn how to use the container number to identify the owner of a container and to confirm the type of equipment the number belongs to. Given the importance of the container number in identifying containers in operational, commercial and security processes the validation method used to ensure the number is correctly recorded is detailed.

Unit 4: Size Type Codes

The unit describes the ISO size type code from its initial development to the 2012 amendment to the code structure. The different code structures will be examined in the values of each code element will be described, all of which are still in use today. The first part of the unit focuses on the 1984 code, the second part the 1995 code and the third part the 2012 amendment. Users will learn how to identify the length, height, width, container types and whether a container has full stacking strength by translate each of the code structures in use.

Unit 5: Container Design & Loads

This unit examines the construction and design of general purpose containers and the stresses and strains a container will be exposed to during stacking and transport. In explaining the impact of these forces on the container the testing regime defined by the ISO is defined.

Unit 6: CSC & Container Stacking

The unit introduces the Convention for Safe Containers (CSC) and the basic information contained on the Safety Approval Plate. The second part examines the allowable stacking height, as regulated by the CSC, and the maximum stacking height of containers based on container strength. The final section, details the more specialised information on the CSC plate and outlines the processes for container approval and both the PES and ACEP container examination schemes.