



Abbreviations

Agent - A person authorized to transact business for and in the name of another person or company.

Arbitrary - An additional rate charged over an already fixed rate, when freight has to be moved by an additional source of transport from one point, to get to another point.

ARN - Arrival Notice

BAF - Bunker Adjustment Factor. Adjusts the freight to reflect current cost of bunkers (fuel for ships).

B/L (Bill of Lading) – acts as a receipt for the cargo and contains the terms of the contract of carriage and is a document of title to the goods.

Bonded Warehouse - A place of security approved by the custom authorities for the deposit, keeping and securing of goods liable to excise duty, without payment of this duty.

Break Bulk - Goods shipped loose in the vessels hold and not in containers.

CAF - Currency adjustment factor – adjusts the freight to reflect currency exchange fluctuations.

CABAF - Currency and Bunker adjustment factor, a combination of CAF and BAF.

CCX (Charges Collect) – Freight Collect

Carnet - A customs document permitting the owner of the goods to carry or send merchandise temporarily into certain foreign countries for display, demonstration or other purposes without paying import duties or posting bonds.

Certificate of Origin - A document certifying the country of origin of goods which is normally issued or signed by a Chamber of Commerce or Embassy

CFS (Container Freight Station) – a place for the packing and unpacking of LCL consignments.

Chargeable Weight - Freight charges are charged out on the chargeable weight of the shipment. This can either be the actual gross weight or the volumetric weight – whichever is greater.

CMI (Comite Maritime International) – an international committee of maritime lawyers.

Commercial Invoice - Represents a complete record of a transaction between exporter and importer with regard to the goods sold. Also reports the content of the shipment and serves as the basis for all other documents about the shipment.

CT (Combined Transport) – carriage by more than one mode of transport under one contract of carriage.

CY (Container Yard) – a collection and distribution point for FCL containers.

Cut Off Date - The last date for which goods can be accepted for a nominated sailing.

CNEE (Consignee) - The party to whom a consignment is dispatched, having legal title to the goods.

CNOR (Consignor) - The sender of the goods

Consignment Note - A document that describes a consignment moving from one point to another, also known as advice or dispatch note or Con note.

COD (Cash on delivery) – full payment for goods on delivery



Demurrage - A charge raised for detaining cargo, containers or trailers for a longer period than the freight time allocated at the given location.

Detention - A charge raised for detaining the equipment, containers or trailers for a longer period than the freight time allocated by the given provider.

DG Cert – Dangerous Goods Certificate, a document required to transport Hazardous cargo/product.

D/O - A document given to the party surrendering the original Bill of Lading, authorizing them to take delivery of the goods.

Drawback - Repayment of a duty upon re-exportation of goods previously imported.

Duty - Is a particular percentage (depending on commodity) of the FOB value, which is paid to the government. The FOB value is the cost of the goods plus any other charges to get those goods on to a vessel.

ETA (Estimated Time of Arrival) – indicates the estimation of the date/hour, the carrier believes the cargo, vessel or container will arrive at a nominated point/port.

ETD - Estimated Time of Departure.

FAK (Freight all kinds) – refers to full container loads of mixed shipments for different consignees.

FCL (Full Container Load) – an arrangement whereby the shipper utilises all the space in a container which he packs himself.

Flat Rack - Container bottom specifically for heavy lifts and overwidth cargoes. Noncontainerisable cargo can be accommodated on several flats positioned side by side.

Feeder Vessel - A Short-sea vessel used to fetch and carry goods and containers to and from deep-sea ports/vessels

Freight - The amount of money payable for the carriage of goods. Sometimes erroneously used to describe the goods, which are more correctly described as “cargo” in marine transportation.

Groupage - Consolidation of several LCL consignments into a container for different consignees.

GP (General Purpose) – A closed steel container for the carriage of all types of general, non-hazardous cargo. 20' & 40' available in GP.

GST (Goods and Service Tax) – worked out as 15% of the CIF value + the duty amount. The CIF value is the cost of goods + marine insurance + freight amount (cost to get cargo to destination port) + duty.

Hazchem Code - Hazardous chemical code placed on tankers carrying dangerous chemicals.

Hi-Cube - Is a container which is slightly (bigger) higher than a General Purpose container. Available in both 20' & 40'.

House Bill of Lading - Issued by a freight forwarder or consolidator covering a single shipment containing the names, addresses and specific description of the goods shipped.

ICC - International Chamber of Commerce.

IMDG Code (International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code) – contains the IMO recommendations for the carriage of dangerous goods by sea.



IMO (International Maritime Organisation) – a UN body charges with the duty of making safety and anti-pollution conventions and recommendations concerning sea transport.

Incoterms - A list of standard terms stated by the ICC for all foreign trade contracts, which lists the respective responsibilities of the buyer and seller.

INV - Invoice

L/C (Letter of Credit) – a document in which the terms of documentary credit transactions are set out.

LCL (Less than Container Load) – when the cargo is too small to fill a container, it is grouped by the carrier at a 'CFS' depot, with other compatible cargo, for the same destination.

L/I (Letter of Indemnity) – sometimes also called a letter of guarantee, if an original bill of lading has become lost or delayed it allows the consignee to take delivery of his goods.

Lo/Lo (Lift On Lift Off) – a wharf charge for the lifting of containers on and off a vessel.

m³ – Cubic Measurement

Manifest - List of goods or passengers on a vessel / aircraft

MSDS - Material Safety Data Sheet, used to determine if the cargo/product is Hazardous.

NVOC(C) - Non Vessel Operating (Common) Carrier – a carrier issuing bills of lading for carriage of goods on vessels which they neither own or operate.

Notify Party - The party to whom the cargo arrival notice is sent.

O/H (Over Height) – a container with cargo exceeding the height of the container.

O/S (Open Sided) – A container with open sides for over width cargo.

O/T (Open Top) – A container with open top loading facility, suitable for the carriage of heavy, over height cargo's equipped with tarpaulin roof.

O/W (Over Width) – a container with goods protruding beyond the sides of the container / flat rack onto which they are packed.

OOG (Out Of Gauge) – goods whose dimensions exceed those of the container in which they are packed.

Outturn - The process of unloading the freight at the destination depot ready to be allocated to a delivery truck

Packing List - Document required by the buyer and Customs, indicating content being shipped, or contents of each package.

Packing Declaration - Document required by Aqis & MPI which states how the shipment has been packed with regards to straw, timber and bark. The packing declaration must be completed in full including a numerical link i.e. container or bill number and issued on supplier's own letterhead to be accepted by quarantine.

Pillage - Theft

POD (Port of Discharge) – the place where the goods are discharged and carriers liability ends. It can also mean; Proof of Delivery – a signed receipt acknowledging delivery.

POL (Port of Loading) – the port at which accepted cargo is loaded onto a vessel.



PPD (Pre-paid) – Freight Pre-paid

PSC (Port Service Charge) - Cost of loading, unloading FCL consignment at the terminal.

RO/RO (Roll On Roll Off) – A vessel onto which goods can be driven, via ramp.

Reefer Container - A refrigerated container. Specifically for cargoes requiring transport at a constant temperature above or below freezing point This is controlled by the ship's or the terminal's cooling plant or a clip on reefer unit.

SOB - Shipped on Board – and endorsement on the bill of lading confirming that the goods have been loaded on board.

Short Shipped - Goods not carried on the intended vessel.

SLI – Shipper's Letter of Instruction

STC – Said to Contain

TEU - Twenty-Foot Equivalent Unit – ie. 1 x 20ft = 1 TEU, 1 x 40ft = 2 TEU.

THC - Terminal Handling Charge – A charge for handling containers at ocean terminals/wharves.

Tare Weight - The actual weight of the empty container, not including the goods.

Tariff - The terms, conditions and scale of charges for carriage

Transit Time – This is the indicated timeframe from Port to Port or Airport to Airport. The Origin and Destination time frame to have the cargo made available to be exported and the time required to deliver at destination is not included.

Transship - When cargo is discharged from one ship and loaded onto another in order to reach a port of no direct service or as a cheaper alternative to the direct service.

Waybill - A bill of lading that acts as receipt for the goods and evidence of the contract for carriage. A waybill is a bill of lading that is not a document and can be defined as follows: - a receipt for goods; is evidence of the contract; is a nonnegotiable document.

Under a waybill, delivery will be effected to a nominated consignee upon proof of identity. As a title it presents a personal contract between the shipper and the carrier only. There is (at present) no mandatory law or convention and the parties have absolute freedom of contract.