

Learn key information around the Import / Export process

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IncoDocs



Learn key Import / Export information:

- Understand International Commercial Terms Incoterms[®] 2020
- Popular shipping methods
- Shipping Container Specifications
- Unit Load Device (ULD) Air Container Specifications
- Guide to choosing a Freight Forwarder
- Free Trade Agreements (FTA) & Certificates of Origin (COO)
- How to create Sales Documents
- Countersigning Proforma Invoices, Purchase Orders & Sales Contracts
- Click to Pay Invoices Online
- How to create Shipping Documents
- How to calculate the landed cost of imported goods (Calculator)
- Glossary of Shipping Terms





Understanding Incoterms® 2020



Understanding Incoterms® is a vital part of International Trade.

Put simply, Incoterms® are the selling terms that the buyer and seller of goods both agrees to. The Incoterm® clearly states which tasks, costs and risks are associated with the buyer and the seller. The Incoterm® is agreed between the buyer and seller and states when the seller's costs and risks are then transferred onto the buyer.

Incoterms® are also referred to as International Commercial Terms, which are published by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), which relate to International Commercial Law. They are accepted by governments and legal authorities around the world. The ICC published new Incoterms® 2020 that have come into effect from the 1st of January 2020. The ICC originally published Incoterms® in 1936 and have continually published updates to reflect the changes to the Global Trade environment. It's important that all parties involved in trade clearly understand the changes and how they apply to global supply chains.

The IncoDocs chart displays Incoterms® 2020 in an easy to understand format. Our chart states each Incoterm® and explains the obligations and charges that are accepted by the seller and the buyer. This is general information for guidance purposes only. For a full and complete description, refer to the full version of Incoterms® 2020 by the International Chamber of Commerce at the ICC website.

Incoterms® 2020 Rules Responsibility Quick Reference Guide

€ Inco Docs		200	<u> </u>						000		
		Freight Col	lect Terms				Frei	ght Prepaid Te	erms		
Groups	Any Mode o		Sea	and Inland W	aterway Trans	port		Any Mode	or Modes of	Transport	
	EXW	FCA	FAS	FOB	CFR	CIF	CPT	CIP	DAP	DPU	DDP
Incoterm	Ex Works (Place)	Free Carrier (Place)	Free Alongside Ship (Port)	Free On Board (Port)	Cost and Freight (Port)	Cost Insurance & Freight (Port)	Carriage Paid To (Place)	Carriage & Insurance Paid to (Place)	Delivered at Place (Place)	Delivered at Place Unloaded (Place)	Delivered Duty Paid (Place)
Transfer of Risk	At Buyer's Disposal	On Buyer's Transport	Alongside Ship	On Board Vessel	On Board Vessel	On Board Vessel	At Carrier	At Carrier	At Named Place	At Named Place Unloaded	At Named Place
				Obli	igations &	Charges:					
Export Packaging	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller
Loading Charges	Buyer	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller
Delivery to Port/Place	Buyer	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller
Export Duty, Taxes & Customs Clearance	Buyer	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller
Origin Terminal Charges	Buyer	Buyer	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller
Loading on Carriage	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller
Carriage Charges	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller
Insurance	Negotiable	Negotiable	Negotiable	Negotiable	Negotiable	*Seller	Negotiable	**Seller	Negotiable	Negotiable	Negotiable
Destination Terminal Charges	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller	Seller
Delivery to Destination	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Seller	Seller	Seller
Unloading at Destination	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Seller	Buyer
Import Duty, Taxes & Customs Clearance	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Buyer	Seller





Understanding Incoterms® 2020

Rules for any mode or modes of transport:

EXW - Ex-Works or Ex-Warehouse

"Ex Works" means that the seller delivers when it places the goods at the disposal of the buyer at the seller's premises or at another named place (i.e.,works, factory, warehouse, etc.). The seller does not need to load the goods on any collecting vehicle, nor does it need to clear the goods for export, where such clearance is applicable.

FCA - Free Carrier

"Free Carrier" means that the seller delivers the goods to the carrier or another person nominated by the buyer at the seller's premises or another named place. The parties are well advised to specify as clearly as possible the point within the named place of delivery, as the risk passes to the buyer at that point.

CPT - Carriage Paid To

"Carriage Paid To" means that the seller delivers the goods to the carrier or another person nominated by the seller at an agreed place (if any such place is agreed between parties) and that the seller must contract for and pay the costs of carriage necessary to bring the goods to the named place of destination.

CIP - Carriage And Insurance Paid To

"Carriage and Insurance Paid to" means that the seller delivers the goods to the carrier or another person nominated by the seller at an agreed place (if any such place is agreed between parties) and that the seller must contract for and pay the costs of carriage necessary to bring the goods to the named place of destination.

'The seller also contracts for insurance cover against the buyer's risk of loss of or damage to the goods during the carriage. The buyer should note that under CIP the seller is required to obtain insurance only on minimum cover. Should the buyer wish to have more insurance protection, it will need either to agree as much expressly with the seller or to make its own extra insurance arrangements."

DAP - Delivered At Place

"Delivered at Place" means that the seller delivers when the goods are placed at the disposal of the buyer on the arriving means of transport ready for unloading at the named place of destination. The seller bears all risks involved in bringing the goods to the named place.

DPU - Delivered At Place Unloaded

"Delivered At Place Unloaded" means that the seller delivers when the goods, once unloaded, are placed at the disposal of the buyer at a named place of destination. The seller bears all risks involved in bringing the goods to, and unloading them at the named place of destination.

DDP - Delivered Duty Paid

"Delivered Duty Paid" means that the seller delivers the goods when the goods are placed at the disposal of the buyer, cleared for import on the arriving means of transport ready for unloading at the named place of destination. The seller bears all the costs and risks involved in bringing the goods to the place of destination and has an obligation to clear the goods not only for export but also for import, to pay any duty for both export and import and to carry out all customs formalities.

Rules for sea and inland waterway transport:

FAS - Free Alongside Ship

"Free Alongside Ship" means that the seller delivers when the goods are placed alongside the vessel (e.g., on a quay or a barge) nominated by the buyer at the named port of shipment. The risk of loss of or damage to the goods passes when the goods are alongside the ship, and the buyer bears all costs from that moment onwards.

FOB - Free On Board

"Free On Board" means that the seller delivers the goods on board the vessel nominated by the buyer at the named port of shipment or procures the goods already so delivered. The risk of loss of or damage to the goods passes when the goods are on board the vessel, and the buyer bears all costs from that moment onwards.

CFR - Cost and Freight

"Cost and Freight" means that the seller delivers the goods on board the vessel or procures the goods already so delivered. The risk of loss of or damage to the goods passes when the goods are on board the vessel. the seller must contract for and pay the costs and freight necessary to bring the goods to the named port of destination.

CIF - Cost, Insurance and Freight

"Cost, Insurance and Freight" means that the seller delivers the goods on board the vessel or procures the goods already so delivered. The risk of loss of or damage to the goods passes when the goods are on board the vessel. The seller must contract for and pay the costs and freight necessary to bring the goods to the named port of destination.

'The seller also contracts for insurance cover against the buyer's risk of loss of or damage to the goods during the carriage. The buyer should note that under CIF the seller is required to obtain insurance only on minimum cover. Should the buyer wish to have more insurance protection, it will need either to agree as much expressly with the seller or to make its own extra insurance arrangements."

What does 'Freight Collect' and 'Freight Prepaid' mean?

Freight Collect and Freight Prepaid are common terms used in International Freight. It is very important to understand the difference, it is basically a statement of who will be paying for all the International freight charges. If you export your goods on 'Freight Collect' terms (EXW, FCA, FAS and FOB are all Freight Collect terms) that means that the importer (your buyer) will 'collect' and pay all of the freight charges on their side, you will not have to pay any freight at all.

If you are the exporter and sell the goods on CFR, CIF, CPT, CIP, DAP, DPU or DDP terms, this means that you will pay for the freight charges ('Freight Prepaid' – you will pre-pay the freight charges). These are linked to the selling terms of your invoice, if you are selling your goods on 'FOB' terms (Free on Board) then you are only covering the costs to get the goods loaded on board the vessel. All charges thereafter will be charged to the receiver of the goods (consignee) – so it will be Freight Collect. These freight terms are stated on the Bill of Lading, the document issued by the shipping line or freight forwarder.

Resources

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Incoterms® 2020



Popular Shipping Methods

When exporting product around the world there are different shipping methods to consider. It mainly depends on the overall product packing sizes, cubic measurement, or total weight of the products to be shipped.

20'GP Shipping Container (General Purpose)

The 20' container is the most cost efficient way to transport the goods to your buyer. It is known as a 'Twenty-Footer' to signify the overall length of 20 feet. Products are usually packed inside cartons, then cartons stacked and wrapped onto pallets and loaded inside the container for transport. A popular way of exporting palletised cargo is 2 pallets high, 2 pallets wide, 8 pallets deep – 16 pallets total.



40'GP Shipping Container (General Purpose)

The 40' shipping container is the same design as the 20' container but just double the length. So the overall length is 40 feet and can hold double the amount of cargo.



The 40' High Cube shipping container is the same overall length as the 40'GP but it is approximately 40cm taller than the GP. This slight increase in height allows for an extra 10-15% of cargo to be loaded inside. It also allows for some different packing methods which can fit extra cargo otherwise unable to load inside a normal 40'GP container.



LCL Cargo (Less Than Container Load)

LCL shipping is a shipping method used for smaller cargo when the overall size of the goods for export is not big enough to fill a 20' container. When LCL shipping is used, the goods are still loaded inside a 20' shipping container and transported the exact same way but the goods are loaded inside a shared shipping container along with other party's cargo to fill the container (a consolidated container). The freight cost is charged out depending on the overall product size or weight, the shipping rate will be charged out per cubic meter of cargo (m3) or per Metric Tonne (1,000kg) in weight, whichever is greater. There are more handling costs involved when shipping LCL cargo as pallets have to be loaded and unloaded more often, incurring more handling charges.

Breakbulk Cargo

Breakbulk Cargo is not a very popular shipping method as it's generally used for oversized cargo that can't fit inside shipping containers. Any cargo that exceeds the length, height or weight restrictions of a 40' container will be shipped by breakbulk cargo. Cargo is loaded on top of the deck of the vessel and has to be carefully loaded into place on the top of the deck by crane. Large machinery, boats and steel are examples of goods that are exported around the world by Breakbulk Cargo.







Shipping Container Specifications

The most popular shipping method all over the world is the popular 20 foot long shipping container (20' container). Shipping containers are the most efficient means of transport all over the world as they are designed to seamlessly transport between trucks, trailers, port handling equipment, shipping vessels and railheads. They exist is many variations to transport different size and shaped cargo.

Dry Cargo Containers

	Conta	iner W	eight	Inte	rior Me	asuren	nent	Door	Open
Туре	Gross (kg)	Tare (kg)	Net (kg)	Length (m)	Width (m)	Height (m)	Capacity (m³)	Width (m)	Height (m)
20 ft	24,000	2,370	21,630	5.898	2.352	2.394	33.20	2.343	2.280
40 ft	30,480	4,000	26,480	12.031	2.352	2.394	67.74	2.343	2.280



Flat Rack Containers

	C	ontainer \	Weight	1	nterior M	easureme	nt
Туре	Gross (kg)	Tare (kg)	Net (kg)	Length (m)	Width (m)	Height (m)	Capacity (m³)
20 ft	30,480	2,900	27,580	5.624	2.236	2.234	27.90
40 ft	34,000	5,870	28,130	11.786	2.236	1.968	51.90



Refrigerated Containers

	Conta	iner W	eight	Inte	rior Me	asuren	nent	Door	Open
Type	Gross (kg)	Tare (kg)	Net (kg)	Length (m)	Width (m)	Height (m)	Capacity (m³)	Width (m)	Height (m)
20 ft	24,000	3,050	20,950	5.449	2.290	2.244	26.70	2.276	2.261
40 ft	30,480	4,520	25,960	11.690	2.250	2.247	57.10	2.280	2.205



High Cube Containers

	Conta	iner We	eight	Inte	rior Mea	asurem	ent	Door (Open
Туре	Gross (kg)	Tare (kg)	Net (kg)	Length (m)	Width (m)	Height (m)	Capacity (m³)	Width (m)	Height (m)
40 ft	30,480	3,980	26,500	12.031	2.352	2.698	76.30	2.340	2.585
45 ft	30,480	4,800	25,680	13.544	2.352	2.698	86.00	2.340	2.585



Open Top Containers

	Conta	iner W	eight	Inte	rior Me	asuren	nent	Door	Open
Туре	Gross (kg)	Tare (kg)	Net (kg)	Length (m)	Width (m)	Height (m)	Capacity (m³)	Width (m)	Height (m)
20 ft	24,000	2,580	21,240	5.629	2.212	2.311	32.00	2.330	2.263
40 ft	30,480	4,290	26,190	11.763	2.212	2.311	65.40	2.330	2.263







ULD - Unit Load Device Air Container Specifications

Unit Load Devices are specially designed cargo pallets and containers that are used to load freight, luggage and mail onto aircraft. These devices allow large quantities of cargo to be bundle and strapped together securely onto 1 mobile unit, so they can be safely and securely transported.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) is responsible for publishing regulations around the use of Unit Load Devices. They can also be referred to as a 'cargo pallet' or a 'PMC pallet'.

Download ULD Specs Chart











Guide to Choosing a Freight Forwarder

Freight Forwarders are companies which specialize in all of the components of International Freight and logistics. They are experts which have experience and understanding of the complex transport and logistics arrangements that are involved to get your goods delivered all the way through to your International customers. When your goods leave your warehouse, there are so many important processes involved to get goods cleared through the port, comply with all regulations, supply the correct documentation, delivered to the correct container yard and loaded onto the correct vessel. Freight forwarders also specialize in integrated modes of transport, so can easily arrange the movement of freight between road, rail and sea.

Freight forwarders have vast experience dealing with complex customs regulations, different port services, quarantine/inspections services, stevedores and shipping lines. You should carefully research and deal with an experienced freight forwarder who takes the time to come out and meet at your premises to clearly understand your business and your requirements. Don't just deal with a freight forwarder based on price as you will need someone with experienced shoulders to overcome any obstacles and potential delays, and a company that will provide you with a high level of service. Choosing a forwarder based on price can cost your business more in the long run.

A good freight forwarder will work out exactly what you need and breakdown their services – from container pickup from your warehouse, delivery through the port and loading onto the vessel. A local representative will also give you International shipping rates to get goods shipped through to the country of destination. Because freight forwarders move large volumes of shipments through several different shipping lines they will be able to give you better shipping rates than if you were to try to deal with shipping lines directly.

Your freight forwarder will have to receive all correct shipment details and paperwork from you so they can organize the export process. When you create all of your export documents using IncoDocs, you can email them directly through to your freight forwarder so they can streamline the export process.







Free Trade Agreements are special agreements between 2 countries that eliminate the import tariffs (import duty fees) that are paid on imported goods.

Import Tarriffs

Import tariffs are charges that are payable when goods are imported into the country of destination, but when the country of import and the country of export have a 'Free Trade Agreement' in place then this agreement eliminates the import duty fees in the country of import. It is primarily designed to increase two-way trade between the countries. This helps both nations and both the Exporter and Importer because it decreases the overall associated import costs, which makes many products more competitive and appealing to International buyers. FTAs also help with overcome some internal barriers which impede the trade of goods and services between countries and they also encourage increased investment and cooperation.



Certificate of Origin

The importer will request that the shipper provides a signed and stamped Certificate of Origin so that they can give this to their customs agent when importing into their country to reduce or eliminate import duty fees. It's important to note that the importer will require this Certificate BEFORE the shipment arrives so that they can pass onto their customs clearance agent. You can easily create your Declaration of Origin document using IncoDocs, and get it certified online.



Exporter The Electric Shop		IncoDocs Number INCO-3764-CRA-6769		Pages 1 of 1
I Place Street Brisbane, QLD, 6300 Australia		Export Invoice No. 6 Date 06-12657 38 JUN 201	SE of Lading No. SHATSVS71286	
		Exporter Reference DIS-13957	Buyer Reference 190034	
Consignee The SwitchGear CO. LTC Xiao Gong Shan Xiamen Fujian, 363806 China		Buyer (Fnot Consignee)		
Wethod of Dispatch Sea	Type of Shipment FCI,	Country of Origin of Goods Australia	Courtry of Final I China	Destination
Vessel/Arcraft Seamer Stanford	Yoyage No 430E	Yerms I Welfoot of Payment 50 percent deposit, 50 percent	before shipment	
Port of Loading Brisbane	Date of Departure 22 July 2017			
Port of Discharge Shanghai	Final Destination Shanghai	Marine Cover Policy No	Letter of Credit N LC149000	
Product Code	Description of Goods	Una Quantity	Price	Amoun
2214	Lighthulb 2 x 17 matt	3000	4.00	4000.0
2216	Decade 20m	400	26.00	129000
3224	Cable wire 40m	79	462.00	33740.0
		TrealThis Page 3320		54046.0
	0	Trail This Plage 3528 programmer Trail 3528		50040 N
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There are a few things to understand in the difference between selling your goods on FOB (Free On Board) or CFR (Cost and Freight) terms.

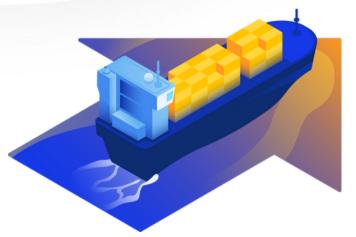
If selling on FOB terms:

You will only have to cover the costs to get the goods loaded on board the vessel ready for export – so you will cover the container trucking from your warehouse to the port plus all of the port and stevedoring charges and loading fees.

If selling on CFR terms:

The International Freight charges will be billed back to you, the shipper. That means you will receive an invoice for the International Seafreight charge (usually in USD) which will usually be billed back to you through your freight forwarder. If you sell your goods on CFR terms then it gives you more control over your goods when on the water. You will remain the owner of the goods until the shipment has arrived at the port of delivery. In some cases, if you have agreed that the seller can make the balance payment for the goods after they have been shipped, then you can use your CFR terms as security by not handing over the original Bills of Lading to the buyer until you received the balance payment. The buyer can only clear the goods into their country once you have handed over the original Bills of Lading.

You must ensure that the International seafreight charge is paid before the goods arrive at the destination.





Sales Documents Used for Export

The exporter will offer their product details and pricing information to the buyer. The exporter must ensure that all information is clearly stated in correctly formatted sales documents - Quotation, Proforma Invoice, Order Confirmation & Purchase Order (Buyer)

Quotation

A quotation document will offer all details of the products and selling terms to the buyer. Exporters must ensure all information is clearly stated in a correctly formatted Quotation document to avoid any confusion or disputes relating to product quality, specifications, pricing, delivery terms and expectations. A badly formatted quote document reflects negatively on the company that is offering the goods for sale.

- Shippers Details (Exporter)
- Buyer's Details (Importer)
- Product Description including item codes, description and specifications
- Product Quantities, Pricing and Currency
- Incoterm
- Shipment Type
- Payment Terms as negotiated between buyer & seller
- Estimated supply lead times

Order Confirmation

The exporter can send an Order Confirmation document to the Importer to reconfirm all of the details of the new order. An order confirmation document is usually sent to the buyer after the buyer has issued a Purchase Order document to confirm the new order. The Exporter must ensure that all information is clearly stated in a correctly formatted Order Confirmation document to avoid having any disputes relating to product quality, specifications, pricing and delivery terms.

- Shipper's Details (Exporter) & Buyer's Details (Importer)
- Product Description including item codes & specifications
- Product Quantities, Pricing and Currency
- Incoterm
- Shipment Type
- Payment Terms as negotiated between buyer & seller
- Estimated supply lead times



Seller ABC Exports 4300 Longbeach Blvd Longbeach, California United States	I a, 90807	23	Quote No.		Date	Pages 1 of 1
TEL: +5627349957 Ben Thompson		ABC Exports	1896		30 Jan 2018	
Buyer XYZ Imports 140 Wecker Road Mansfield Brisbane, Queenslane Australia TEL: +61404845957 John Smith	d, 4122					
Method of Dispatch Sea		Type of Shipment FCL	Terms / Method o 50% DEPOSIT, B	Payment ALANCE UPON	BILL OF LADING	
Port of Loading Long Beach - Californ	via	Port of Discharge Sydney - Australia				
Product Code	Description	of Goods	Unit Quantity	Unit Type	Price	Amount
B-STOOL		OL ALUMINUM 500 X 100 X AINLESS STEEL	1000	EACH	19.80	19800.00
B-TABLE	BAR TABL 40MM STA	LE ALUMINIUM 1000 X 600 X UNLESS STEEL	250	EACH	38.70	9675.00
OTTO-L	OTTOMAN	LEATHER VINTAGE	55	EACH	14.60	803.00
		Total This Page	1305			30278.00
		Consignment Total	1305			30278.00
Additional Information 20 DAYS LEAD TIME	AFTER DEF	човит	Invoice Total (Inco FOB	LONGBEACH	USD	\$30278.00
			Place and Date of LONGBEACH	fissue		30 Jan 2018
			Signatory Compa ABC Exports			
			Name of Authoriz John Smith	ed Signatory		
			Signature	3-8		



Seller ABC Exports		**				Pages 1 of 1
4300 Longbeach Blv Longbeach, Californ United States TEL: +5627349957 Ben Thompson	d ia, 90007	ABC Exports	Reference No. 1902		Date 30 Jan 2018	
Buyer XYZ Imports 140 Wecker Road Mansfield Brisbane, Queernlar Australia TEL: +61,404845967 John Smith	nd, 4122					
Method of Dispatch Sea		Type of Shipment FCL	Terms / Method o 50% DEPOSIT, B	Payment ALANCE UPON	BILL OF LADING	
Port of Loading Long Beach - Califor	mia	Port of Discharge Sydney - Australia				
Product Code	Descriptio	n of Goods	Unit Quantity	Unit Type	Price	Amor
B-STOOL	100MM S	OL ALUMINIUM 500 X 100 X TAINLESS STEEL	1000	EACH	19.90	19800
B-TABLE	BAR TAB 40MM ST	LE ALUMNIUM 1000 X 600 X NINLESS STEEL	250	EACH	38.70	9675
OTTO-L	OTTOMA	N LEATHER VINTAGE	55	EACH	14.60	803
		Total Trice Page				
		Total This Flagg Consignment Total	1305			
Additional Internation			Invoice Total (Inco FOB	LONGBEACH	U80	30278
Additional Information 20 DAYS LEAD TIME			Invoice Total (Inco FOB Place and Date or LONOBEACH Signatory Compa	LONGBEACH	USO	30278 \$30278
Additional Information 20 DAYS LEAD TIME			Invoice Total (Inco FOB Place and Date or LONOBEACH	LONGBEACH Tissue	USO	30278. 30278. \$30278. \$30278.



Sales Documents Used for Export

Buyers and Sellers will have to issue and counter-sign important Purchase Order and Proforma Invoice Contracts

Purchase Order

A Purchase Order is a document issued by the buyer of goods, sent to the seller of goods to confirm the details of products that are ordered. The Purchase Order is the official order document from the buyer's company that will contain all details of the new order. If the Purchase Order does not contain all relevant information it can cause confusion and delays to orders. The seller will also issue a Proforma Invoice document that will match all details of the buyer's Purchase Order. Both parties will have to counter sign both documents as these documents represent a legally binding agreement between the seller and buyer.

- Shipper's Details (Exporter) & Buyer's Details (Importer)
- Product Description including item codes & specifications
- Product Quantities, Pricing and Currency
- Incoterm
- Shipment Type
- Payment Terms as negotiated between buyer & seller
- Estimated supply lead times
- Signatures of the Seller & Buyer, including names and dates

Proforma Invoice (or Sales Contract)

A Proforma Invoice is an important document that is created by the seller of goods. After the buyer has communicated the details of the products they want to order, the seller will create a Proforma Invoice to include all product details, quantities, pricing and delivery information. It is usually created after a quotation has been sent and when the sales process is moving closer to a confirmed deal. The Proforma invoice will include the seller's bank details so that the buyer can arrange payments as required.

- Shipper's Details (Exporter) & Buyer's Details (Importer)
- Product Description including item codes & specifications
- Product Quantities, Pricing and Currency
- Incoterm
- Shipment Type
- Payment Terms as negotiated between buyer & seller
- Estimated supply lead times
- Signatures of the Seller & Buyer, including names and dates







BC Exports				1 of 1
500 Logan Road risbane, Queensland, 4000 ustralia 11.0154,8881	4	Invoice Number 2783	Date 11 Jan 2020	
obn Smith	ABC Exp	Orts Super Reference 6722		
Uyer SA Restaurant 300 Longbeach Blvd ongbeach, California, 9022 nited States 183955749995 andy Clarke		Delivery Date 26 Jan 2020		
lethod of Dispatch ea.	Type of Shipment PCL	Terms / Method of Paymer 50% DEPOSIT, BALANCE	E UPON BILL OF LADING	
ort of Loading visibane	Port of Discharge Long Beach			
Product Code	Description of Goods	Unit Quantity	Unit Type Price	Amount
STOOL BAR	STOOL ALUMINIUM 500 X 200 X 200M NLESS STEEL	M 1,000 EAC	H 19	80 19,800.00
		MI SOU EACH	н за	79 19,360,00
TABLE BAR STAI	crea			m
TABLE BAR STAI	cod	ocs.		
TABLE BAR STAI	cod	nted free at		39,150.00
TABLE BAR STAI	cod	ocs.		39,150,00



Countersigning Sales Contracts Online

Countersigning Proforma Invoices, Purchase Orders and Sales Contracts used in Global Trade

Countersigning proforma invoices, purchase orders and sales contracts requires both buyer and seller to add their company stamp or company seal, and their signature onto both documents.

Countersigned Proforma Invoices, Sales Contracts and Purchase Orders represent a legally binding agreement between the buyer and seller. If there are any problems or disputes relating to the order or shipments, these documents will be referred to in a court of law.

In the past, both buyers and sellers (importers or exporters) have had to manually print, sign, scan, upload then mail documents between each other. Throughout the history of trade, this has been the adopted process to get contracts signed.

In today's world, buyers and sellers can now use IncoDocs to countersign each document to eliminate the manual print, sign, scan and email process. Importers and exporters are countersigning trade documentation to transition to paperless operations. This allows companies to close deals faster, sign contracts from anywhere, increase administration efficiency and reduce paper & operational costs.

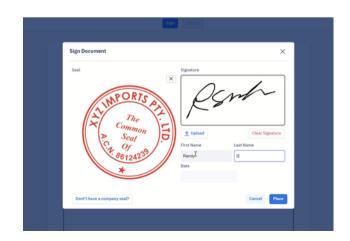
Countersigning Documents Addid Information Addid Information Fandy Smith 18 Nov 2019 Elevacies Total (Incodermolit 2010) FOB BRISBANE USD 23,184.69 Place and Date of Issue BENEFICIARY'S BANK NAME: WESTPAC BENEFICIARY'S BANK NA

Countersigning a Purchase Order

- 1 The buyer creates a Purchase Order in IncoDocs, adds their company stamp or seal, inserts their electronic signature, then requests the document to be countersigned by the seller.
- 2 The seller uploads their digital company stamp or seal and inserts their electronic signature.

Countersigning a Proforma Invoice

- 1 The seller creates a Proforma Invoice in IncoDocs, adds their digital company stamp or seal, inserts their electronic signature, then requests the document to be countersigned by the buyer.
- 2 The buyer uploads their digital company stamp or seal and inserts their electronic signature.







Get Paid Faster. Allow your buyers to click to pay invoices online.

When a deal is confirmed, the seller will usually share a Proforma Invoice requesting a deposit payment from the buyer. When sellers provide payment options on their invoices, buyers will have an easy 'click to pay' experience to get paid faster. Sellers can get setup in IncoDocs to receive payments from their buyers.

Pay by Credit Card

Buyers click to enter their credit card details.

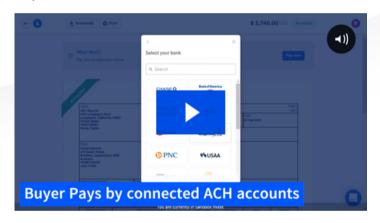


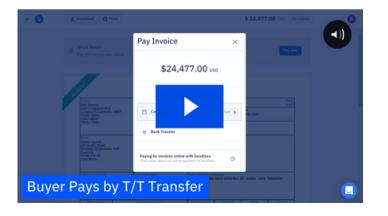
Pay by SWIFT Telegraphic Transfer (T/T)

Buyers can get setup to make T/T payments with competitive exchange rates. This gives buyers the power to make fast, transparent and cost-effective International payments in multiple currencies. Sellers don't have to change anything, buyers just sign up, get verified and start making T/T payments directly to seller's existing SWIFT IBAN bank account.

Pay by ACH Transfer

Buyers select their connected US bank account for a seamless ACH payment.







Shippers must ensure they create compliant shipping documentation to pass off to the freight company to correctly arrange the export of goods. Errors will cause costly delays, fines and demurrage charges.

What shipping documents do you have to create?

You may be wondering exactly what documents you have to create to get your goods exported to your customer overseas? The exact documentation depends on a few factors including country of export, country of import, type of products, shipping methods etc. The shipper (exporter) must create complete and compliant export documents to ensure that shipments are correctly delivered through the port, cleared customs, meet all compliance and regulations, then loaded on board the correct vessel. All export documentation must be completed correctly to avoid any missed shipments, port demurrage charges or fines to your business.

IncoDocs ensures compliant shipping documents to get products exported without problems or delays. Below is an overview and explanation of some of the most important shipping documents required for export:

- Commercial Invoices
- **Packing Lists**
- **Shipper's Letter of Instruction**
- **Forwarding Instruction**
- **Verified Gross Mass (VGM)**
- Certificate of Origin (COO)
- **Packing Declaration (ISPM15)**
- **Importer Security Filing (ISF)**
- Manufacturer's Declaration



Documents are created in line with United Nations Layout Key (UNLK) recommendations for International Trade.



Security

Contract

Packing Declaration

of Origin









Proforma

Invoice







Commercial Invoice

The commercial invoice for export provides all important information and instructions for your buyer, freight forwarder, customs, agents and your bank (if required). The commercial invoice does not show tax as International transactions for export are not subject to local taxes.

- Shipper's details
- Consignee's details (buyer)
- · Detailed product information
- Incoterm
- Port of loading
- Port of discharge
- Commercial product sale value
- Currency sold

Packing List

A packing list is a detailed document that states all of the product and packaging details of each shipment. Your freight forwarder will use this information when preparing the Bill of Lading with the shipping line so that the cargo can be moved around accordingly. It can be used by customs in the country of import to understand exactly how shipments are packaged and loaded to check product and packaging compliance and any import duties or taxes payable in the country of destination. Key information detailed in the packing list includes:

- Shipper and consignee name, address, contact details
- Measurements and total Net Weight and Gross Weight of cargo
- · Detailed list of how goods are packaged and number of packages
- · Any relevant shipping marks or seal numbers used
- Any other important information or special instructions related to the loading and packaging contained in the shipment







					1 of 1
a, 90807	2	Export Invoice N 1907	o & Date 30 Jan 2018	Bill of Lading No	
	ABC Exports	Reference 1907		Buyer Reference	
		Buyer (If not Con	signee)		
	Type of Shipment FCL	Country of Origin United States	of Goods	Country of Final Australia	Destination
	Voyage No 22E	Packing Informat	ion		
nia	Date of Departure 30 Jan 2018				
	Final Destination AUSTRALIA				
Seal No	Description of Goods	No of Packages	Net Weight (kg)	Gross Weight (kg)	Measurements (m ³)
S1703176 5	BAR STOOLS, BAR TABLES, PALLETIZED	430	11380.00	11690.00	26.80
	Total This Page	430	11389,00 kg	11690,00 kg	28.80 m ³
	Total The Page Consignment Total	430 430	11380.00 kg 11380.00 kg	11590.00 kg 11690.00 kg	28.80 m ³ 28.80 m ²
	\$1700176	ABC Exports ad out, distal Plan of Signment Sign of Signment Sign of Signment Output for Signment Assistantian Command Conscious Signment	AS OF CANADA AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AN	A SMOOT ABC EXPORTS Sinteresce 2007 ABC EXPORTS Sinteresce 2007 Sinteres	A SWOY 20 Jan 2020 ABC EXPORTS Selection 2020 Buyer (Institution 2



Shipper's Letter of Instruction (SLI)

A Shipper's Letter of Instruction (SLI) or Forwarding Instruction is an important legal document created between the exporter and the freight forwarder that is organising the export and logistics for your shipment. It is a detailed document which gives your freight forwarder all specific instructions relating to the export of your goods. The freight forwarder will use the Shipper's Letter of Instruction to correctly arrange transport of your cargo and provide customs with all product details used for statistical purposes and to make any extra special arrangements.

- Shippers Details (Exporter)
- Consignee Details (Importer)
- Notify Party (if Required)
- Shipper's Reference Number
- Shipment Type
- Requires pickup (Y/N)
- Incoterm
- Port of Loading
- Port of Discharge

- Vessel Name
- Voyage Number
- Container Number
- Seal Number
- ISPM Packing details
- Country and State of Origin (product) Total Gross Weight (kgs / lbs)
- Value of goods sold
- Currency
- Hazardous Cargo Details (if req.)

- Shipment under Letter of Credit
- Shipment insured
- Shipping Marks
- Documentation Instructions
- Total Number of Packages
- Total Packing Size (cbm / cuft)
- Commodity / Nature of Goods
- Special Instructions
- Signed Name, Signature, Date



		IncoDocs Number		Page
ABC Exports 20/140 Weeker Road	A CO	INCO-3764-CIRA-5789		1 of 1
Mansfield Brisbane, Queensland, 412 Australia	2	Shipper Reference DB-12657		
TEL: 0404845957 Ben Thompson	ABC Export	S Certificate Number 32765025		
Ben Thompson	ADC EXPORT	J2765025		
METHOD 1				
METHOD 1 Weighing the packed contain	er using calibrated and certified we	ghing equipment (e.g.weighbridge	es, load cell sensing	Τ
	er using calibrated and certified we	ghing equipment (e.g.weighbridge	es, load cell sensing	
Weighing the packed contain	er using calibrated and certified we	ghing equipment (e.g.weighbridge	rs. load cell sensing	
Weighing the packed contain technologies etc). METHOD 2				
Weighing the packed contain technologies etc). METHOD 2 Weighing all packages and c	argo items, including the mass of p	allets, dunnage and other securing	material to be packed in the	
Weighing the packed contain technologies etc). METHOD 2 Weighing all packages and container and adding the tark		allets, dunnage and other securing of the shole masses, using a cert	material to be packed in the	
Weighing the packed contain technologies etc). METHOD 2 Weighing all packages and container and adding the tark	argo items, including the mass of p	allets, dunnage and other securing of the single masses, using a cert (MCA) or its authorized body).	material to be packed in the	
Weighing the packed contain technologies etc). METHOD 2 Weighing all packages and container and adding the tark	argo items, including the mass of p	allets, dunnage and other securing of the shole masses, using a cert	material to be packed in the	×

Verified Gross Mass Declaration (VGM)

The Verified Gross Mass (VGM) declaration is a very important legal document. This document represents a statement of total mass in accordance with International Maritime Organization (IMO) Verified Gross Mass requirements (SOLAS). You must ensure this document is completed correctly to ensure safe shipments and avoid huge fines!

- Shippers Details (Exporter)
- **Container Number**
- Seal Number
- **Booking Number**
- Vessel Name

- Voyage
- Date Verified
- Total Verified Gross Mass
- Statement (Method 1 or Method 2)
- VGM MassWeight (kg or lbs)
- Declarant Issuer Name, Signature, Date

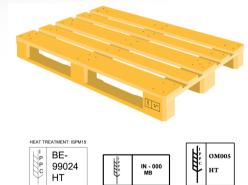




A packing declaration is an important document which states the type of packing materials that are used to pack the goods inside your container.

It is to ensure that any timber packaging used are ISPM15 compliant, to protect the spread of insects and disease which can be hiding away in timber packing materials such as pallets, create and dunnages. The shipper will have to provide a statement on company letterhead which states the type of packing materials used and if they have been treated or marked in compliance with ISPM15 or DAFF fumigation treatment requirements. ISPM 15 is a wood treatment standard that address the need to treat wood materials that are used to ship products between countries. If you are using this type of packaging to pack and export your goods then you must ensure that the materials are debarked and correctly heat treated or fumigated with methyl bromide and then stamped with the ISPM marking. Below is an example of pallets which have already been heat treated and stamped with the ISPM15 markings. ISMP15 Export compliant pallets and packaging are available from local suppliers.

If you export your products and have used timber packaging that has not had the correct treatment or ISPM stamping it can cause some big problems when it arrives into the country of destination. The shipment will be pulled aside and correctly treated and inspected at the port of delivery before it will be cleared through customs, which can be quite expensive and you may also be fined for not complying to rules and regulations. Worst case the whole shipment could be refused entry into the country and completely destroyed. Your freight forwarder will be able to arrange the correct treatment and supply you with a fumigation/treatment certificate that you can pass onto your buyer to prove the goods have been correctly treated.



Exemptions from ISPM15

Most other packing products are exempt from this ISPM15 treatment. It is important to note that other wood panel products such as plywood and hardboard do not require ISPM15 treatment as they are not a raw timber material, they have already been treated through a manufacturing process which eliminates the risk of insects and diseases living inside. Other materials such as papers and plastics are also exempt from this treatment. Wood packaging that is made from thin wood (less than 6mm) will be exempt from requiring treatment.



Packing Declaration (ISPM15)

A packing declaration is an important document which states the type of packing materials that are used to pack the goods inside your container. It is to ensure that any timber packaging used are ISPM15 compliant, to protect the spread of insects and disease which can be hiding away in timber packing materials such as pallets, create and dunnages. The shipper will have to provide a statement on company letterhead which states the type of packing materials used and if they have been treated or marked in compliance with ISPM15 or DAFF fumigation treatment requirements.

- Shippers Details (Exporter)
- Shipper's Reference Number
- Vessel Name
- Voyage Number
- Answers to 3 questions relating to packaging materials
- Container Cleanliness Statement (FCL only)
- Place and Date of issue
- Declarant Issuer Name, Signature, Date

Video

Shipper	No.	Pages 1 of 1
ABC Exports 4300 Longbeach Blvd Longbeach, California, United States	90807	Reference 1906
TEL: +5627349957 Ben Thompson	ABC Exports	Consignment Identifier or Numerical Link 1996
Vessel Name MAERSK EMMA		Voyage Number 22E
	E PACKING MATERIAL STATEME such as straw, bamboo, pear, hay, chaff, user	
Q1	Have prohibited packaging materials or bar consignment covered by this document?	mboo products been used as packaging or dunnage in the
A1	YES	NO ¥
		₩ 🛕
TIMBER PACK	AGING/DUNNAGE STATEMENT	
Ø5	Has solid timber packaging/dunnage been	used in consignments covered by this document?
A1	YES 🗶	NO
TREATMENT C (Timber packaging):	ERTIFICATION (ONLY IF TIMBER/E unnage includes: crates, cases, pallets, skids	OUNNAGE IS DECLARED IN QUESTION 2) , and any other timber used as a shipping aid.)
Q3	All timber packaging/dunnage used in the o	consignment has been (Please Indicate below)
	Treated and marked in compliance with	ISPM 15
	Or .	
	Treated in compliance with Department Resources treatment requirements (With accompanying treatment certificate)	of Agriculture and Water
	Or .	
	Not treated	
CONTAINER CLEAN material of animal and	INESS STATEMENTThe container(s) covere for plant origin and soil.	ed by this document has/have been cleaned and islare free from
		Place and Date of Issue LONGBEACH 30 Jan 2011
		Signatory Company ABC Exports
		Name of Authorized Signatory Randy Clarke
		Signature
		12-2

Certificate of Origin (COO)

The importer will request that the shipper provides a signed and stamped Certificate of Origin so that they can give this to their customs agent when importing into their country to reduce or eliminate import duty fees. It is important to note that the importer will require this Certificate BEFORE the shipment arrives so that they can pass onto their customs clearance agent.

- Shippers Details (Exporter)
- Product Details
- Packing Sizes
- Country of Origin declaration
- Declarant Issuer Name, Signature, Date

Economic		IncoDocs I	Sumber		Faces	
The Electric Shop 3 Place Street		BVC0-376	1 of 1			
Printe Street Brisbane, QLO, 4300 Australia		Export trusice No & Care 06-52467 38 JUN 2007		SE of Lading No SHATSVS75288	SE of Lading No SHATSVS71288	
		Exporter R 08-13467	elerence	Suyer Flaterence 190034	•	
Consigner The SwitchGear CO, LTD Xiao Dong Shan Xiamen Pujian, 363806 China		Buyer (Fin	ot Consignes)			
Method of Disperch Sea	Type of Shipment FCL	Country of Australia	Origin of Goods	Coursey of Final China	Courtry of Final Destination China	
Vessel/ Recraft Swamax Stanford	Vityage No 428E	Terms / titl 50 percen	Terms I Method of Payment 50 percent deposit, 50 percent before shipment			
Port of Loading Brisbane	Date of Departure 22 July 2017					
Port of Discharge Shanghai	Final Destination Shanghai	Marine Co	ver Policy No	Letter of Credit N LC149000	Letter of Credit No LC140000	
Product Code	Description of Goods		Unit Quantity	Price	Amount	
2254	Lighthuth 2 x 17 matt		3000	4.00	4000.00	
2238	Cleaning 20m		400	28.90	32900-00	
1204	Cable wire 80m		79	462.00	33740-00	
		Total This Page	1820		90040-00	
		Consignment Total	1629		90040-00	
Additional information IZ months manufacturers	s marranty					
Barris Details Account Name: The Electric Shop Pty Lnd Account Name: 01431401 SWET Code: CTBANUSS Reference: 06-12467				Brisbane U	SD \$90040.00	
			Place and Date of Brisbane	21.70	2017	
			Signatory Compan The Electric Shop			
			Name of Authorize John Canon	f Signatory		
			Separate A	>		



Importer Security Filing (ISF) - for inbound shipments to the USA

If you're shipping goods to the USA, you will have to be aware of the Importer Security Filing process so that important information can be transmitted on time. The ISF is a filing process that is required by the United States Customs and Border Protection (CPB) which requires import containerized cargo information. The information must be transmitted to the agency at least 24 hours before goods are loaded onboard a vessel to the USA. If the ISF is not transmitted in time penalties of up to US\$5,000 can apply.

The ISF is also known as a "10+2" as it requires importers to provide 10 data elements to CBP and 2 other documents from the carrier of goods (shipping line). An ISF document can be created to contain all of this information to be passed on to different parties.

- Manufacturer (or supplier) name and address
- Seller (or owner) name and address
- · Buyer (or owner) name and address
- Importer of record number, name and address
- Consignee number(s)
- Country of origin
- Ship-to name and address
- Container stuffing location
- Consolidator (stuffer) name and address
- Commodity Harmonized Tariff Schedule number for each product on the shipment
- Master bill of lading number
- House bill of lading number (if applicable)

Manufacturer's Declaration

A manufacturer's declaration is a flexible document that usually contains statement from the issuing company. The document can be used for many purposes, including Newly Manufactured Declaration, Non-Asbestos Declaration, New Prefabricated Units Declaration & New Shipping Containers Declaration.

The top of the document will include the Manufacturer's details (including name and address), the middle section will contain a general statement from that company. The bottom of the document will include a signature from an authorized representative from the company.



		IMPORTER SE	CURITY	FILING		
Manufacturer or Supplier Name and Address ABC Exports			Pages 1 of 1			
4500 Legan Road Brisbane, Queenstand, Australia +6140404566	4000	2	Export Invoice 4499	ST Jun 2019	Bit of Lading Number BL1254	
John Smith		ABC Exports	Reference 4499		Buyer Reference POSS11	
ABC Exports 4500 Logan Road Brinsbare, Queensland, 4000 Australia Lot educates		Boyer or Owner States and Address USA Reports 4300 Longillesch Brief Longillesch, California, 960007 Longillesch, California, 960007 150007 States Randy Clarke				
Consigner Numbers), Name and Address 940 Ampoint 4000 Longithesis Bird 4000 Longithesis, Geology Longithesis, California, 500007 +15607240007 Randy Clarker		Stop to Summa and Address USA Reports 4300 Longitudes - Gibbs 4300 Longitudes - Gallonia, Longitudes - Gallonia, 1964/1749607 Randy Clarke				
Method of Dispatch Sea		Type of Shipment FCL	Importer of Rec 123456	ord Number		
Vessel / Aircraft ELLY MAERISK		Voyage No 1	Important of State	Importer of Record Name and Address		
Port of Loading Date of Departure Brishane 10 Jun 2019		USA Imports 4300 Longbeach (Bivd Longbeach, California, 900007 Umited States				
Country Of Origin of Oce Australia	ds	Country of Final Destination United States	+15627349967 Randy Clarke			
Product Code		lescription of Goods H LUMBNIUM 500 X 100 X 100MM 30	TS Code	Manufacturer / Supplier	Country of Origin	
	STAMLESS S	776.				
Container Stuffing Local ABC Exports 4500 Liegan Road Brisbane, Queenstand,			Place and Cole BRISBANE		67 Jun 2	
Australia +6140464666 John Smith			Signatory Com ABC EXPORT	3		
Coreologica (Stuffer) No ABC Exports	ome and Address		Name of Autho JOHN SMITH	iced Signatory		
4500 Logan Road Brisbane, Queensland, Australia +6140404055 Juhn Swith	4000		Sgnature	150	-11	

ABC Exports 4500 Logan Road	JH(7)		100
Australia +614049406	2	Export Invoice Number & Cole 9477 29 Jan 2020	Bill of Lading Number
-0140404000 John Smith	ABC Exports	Reference 9K77	Suyer Reference 44965
Conspine ISA Imports C00 Longbeach (Itvd Congbeach, California, 900007 Inited States 19402734007 Eandy Clarke		Bage: (If not Consignee)	
Method of Dispatch Sea	Type of Stigment PCL	Country Of Origin of Goods Australia	Country of Final Destination Shifted States
Pessel / Asquaft CNMA MAERSK	V0yage No. 211		
Port of Loading Drisbane	Date of Departure 23 Jan 2020	1	
Port of Discharge Long Beach	Final Destination LONGSEACH, USA	1	
Additional Information		Place and Dale of Issue Brisbane Signatory Company	20 Jan 20
		ABC Exports Name of Authorized Signatury John Smith	
		STILL STILL	

NEWLY MANUFACTURED DECLARATION



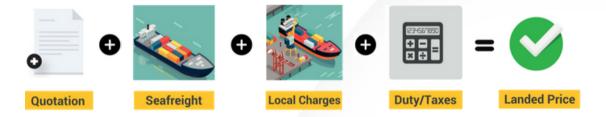


How to calculate the landed cost of imported goods

When sourcing products from overseas suppliers, it is essential to accurately calculate the Landed Cost of Imported Goods. In order to do that, you must clearly understand all of the additional costs and charges involved in the supply chain process. Before contacting an overseas supplier and get quotations for products, make sure you have a clear idea of all the landed price of the products. Below we describe all the information you will need by the time the goods are ordered, shipped, customs cleared and delivered to your door.

To calculate the landed costs of imported goods you must:

- 1 Receive a detailed quotation from your supplier with all details confirmed.
- 2 Understand your actual freight and additional costs of imported goods.
- 3 Understand your actual currency exchange rates and costs



Click here to read the full guide, and download the Landed Cost calculator.







Glossary of Shipping Terms

The International shipping and marine transport industry is full of unique shipping terms and shipping abbreviations. And these are used every day to describe everything from modes of transport, units of measure, pricing structures, IncoTerms and much more.

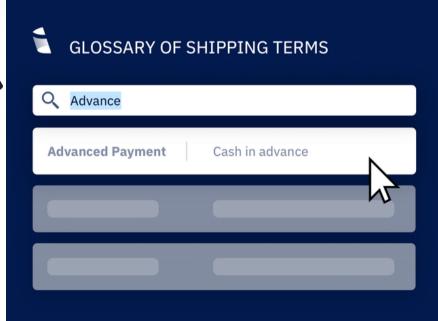
It's important that importers, exporters and freight companies correctly communicate freight terms to avoid problems or disputes arising from misunderstanding them.

We've put together this shipping glossary chart to help you navigate global trade.



Click to:

- 1) Download the full glossary chart online
- 2) Enter your search terms to view results



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 Start using immediately, no installation required.
- No training required. Simple, uncluttered tool for a frustrationfree experience.
- Support when you need it!
 Personal onboarding & rapid in-app support.