# IncoDocs

Learn key information about the Import / Export process

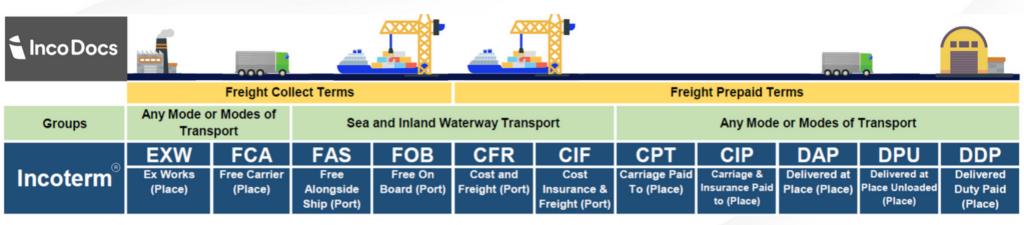
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### Learn key Import / Export information:

- 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 (Landed Cost Calculator)
- Glossary of Shipping Terms



### **Understanding Incoterms® 2020**



### Understanding Incoterms<sup>®</sup> is a vital part of International Trade.

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

Incoterms<sup>®</sup> 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<sup>®</sup> 2020 that have come into effect from the 1st of January 2020. The ICC originally published Incoterms<sup>®</sup> 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<sup>®</sup> 2020 in an easy to understand format. Our chart states each Incoterm<sup>®</sup> 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<sup>®</sup> 2020 by the International Chamber of Commerce at the ICC website.

### Incoterms<sup>®</sup> 2020 Rules Responsibility Quick Reference Guide

🗧 Inco Docs	4		4						-000-		
		Freight Coll	ect Terms		Freight Prepaid Terms						
Groups	Any Mode o Trans	Sea and Inland Wa			aterway Trans	port		e or Modes of	r Modes of Transport		
	EXW	FCA	FAS	FOB	CFR	CIF	СРТ	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

TincoDocs Create your Sales & Shipping Documents at www.incodocs.com

\*CIF requires at least an insurance with the minimum cover of the Institute Cargo Clause (C) (Number of listed risks, subject to itemized exclusions) \*\*CIP now requires at least an insurance with the minimum cover of the Institute Cargo Clause (A) (All risk, subject to itemized exclusions) Copyright © 2020 IncoSolutions Pty Ltd. All Rights Reserved.

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### **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

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### **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.

### 40'HC Shipping Container (High-Cube)

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 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**

	Container Weight			Inte	rior Me	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

### **Refrigerated Containers**

	Container Weight			Inte	rior Me	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	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

### **Open Top Containers**

	Container Weight			Inte	rior Me	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



### **Flat Rack Containers**

	C	ontainer \	Weight		nterior M	easureme	nt
Туре	Gross (kg)	Tare (kg)	Net (kg)	Length (m)	Width (m)	Height (m)	Capacity (m <sup>3</sup> )
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



### **High Cube Containers**

	Container Weight			Inte	rior Me	Door Open			
Туре	Gross (kg)	Tare (kg)	Net (kg)	Length (m)	Width (m)	Height (m)	Capacity (m <sup>3</sup> )	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

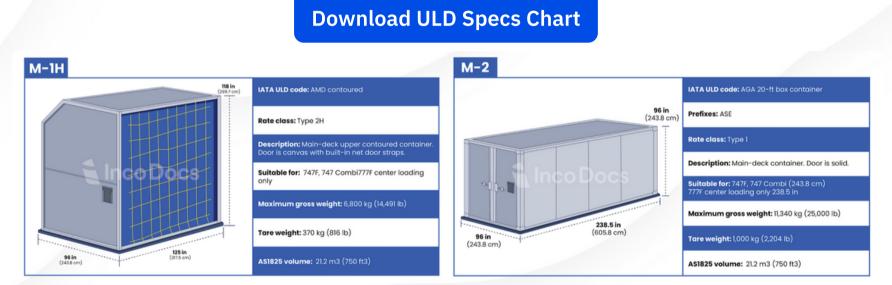


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### **ULD - Unit Load Device Air Container Specifications**

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'.



#### M-6 IATA ULD code: PGA 20-ft flat pallet with net 96 in Prefixes: PGA, PGE, PGF, PSA, PSG, P7E, P7F, and P7G (243.8 cm) Rate class: Type 1 Description: Main-deck pallet squared off to 244 cm (96 in) high Suitable for: 747F, 747 Combi, 777F Maximum gross weight: 11,340 kg (25,000 lb) (605.8 cm) 238.5 in 605.8 cm) Tare weight: 500 kg (1,102 lb) 96 in (243.8 cm) AS1825 volume: 33.7 m3 (1,190 ft3)

### М-6 (118"Н)



### IATA ULD code: PGA 10-ft high, 20-ft flat pallet with net

Prefixes: PGA, PGE, PGF, PSA, PSG, P7A, P7E, P7F, and P7G

#### Rate class: Type 1

Description: Main-deck pallet squared off to 299.7 cm (118 in) high.

Suitable for: 747 Combi, 777F 238.5 in 747F through side cargo door only

Maximum gross weight: 11,340 kg (25,000 lb)

Tare weight: 500 kg (1,102 lb)

AS1825 volume: 39.6 m3 (1,400 ft3)

### **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**

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.



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Consignee The SwitchGear CO. LTD Xiao Dong Shan Xiamen Pupan, 353006 China		Buyer (Fri	or Consignee)		
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Port of Loading Brisbana	Date of Departure 22 JUN 2017				
Port of Discharge Shanghai	Final Destination Shanghai	Marine Co	ver Policy No	Latter of Credit LC140000	No
Product Code	Description of Goods		Una Quantity	Price	Amount
2214	Lightbulb 2 x 37 watt		3000	4.00	4000.00
3258	Decaire 20m		450	25.90	12600.00
3224	Cable wire 40m		79	452.00	33746-96
		Total This Page	1820		54546.00
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### **FOB Vs CFR Terms**

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





### **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



IncoDoc

### **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 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.





### **Click to Pay Invoices**

### 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.

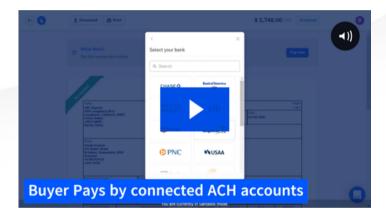
### Pay by Credit Card

Buyers click to enter their credit card details.



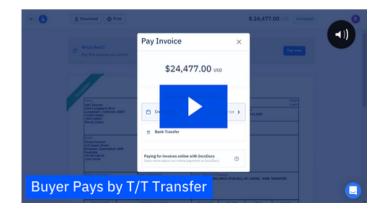
### Pay by ACH Transfer

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



### 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.



### **Shipping Documents Required for Export**

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.



Commercial Invoice Importer Security Filing

Sales Contract

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### **Shipping Documents Required for Export**



### **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





# **IncoDocs**

### **Shipping Documents Required for Export**

### 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 reg.)

- 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

SH	IPPER'S	LE	TTE	R OF INSTR	UCTIO	) DN	
Shipper ABC Exports 1300 Longbeach Blvd Longbeach, California, 90807							Pages 1 of 1
United States TEL: +5627349957 Ben Thompson				Reference 1909	Buyer Refe	erence E	Export Declaration Jumber
Consignee Considere Imports 1216/55 Expressiver Road Observations Tommsville, Queensland, 4814 Australia Mustralia TEL: +61747281158 Dean Boor				Forwarding Agent DE Freight 1485 Alameda Street Longbeach Longbeach, Californi United States TEL: +1(213) 509 662		DE F	Se ight
Notify Party (If not Consignee) Method of Dispetch	Type of Shipmen			Country of Origin of G		0	nal Destination
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Port of Discharge Sydney - Australia	Final Destination AUSTRALIA			Incoterms® 2010 FOB LONGBEACH		Declared Val USD \$	35800.00
FORWARDER TO ARRANGE							
Export Declaration Number	Yes		lo K	Cartage / Pickup		Yes	No
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Marks and Numbers	No & Kind of Pa	ISON		tion of Goods		Cross Weig (kg) 11560.00	(m <sup>5</sup> )
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DANGEROUS goods? If you answ please also enclose your dangerou paperwork.	ered YES.	N	ю	Is this shipment on Let answered YES, please Credit paperwork.	ter of Credit also enclos	? If you e your Letter o	r NO
Special Instructions / Additional Inf	omation						
oertify that the statements mad	e and all informa	tion con	tained h	rrein are true and rfeiture and sale, may	Place and LONGBE/	Date of Issue ICH Company	30 Jan 2

### 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

VE		ide		)		
ABC Exports 20/140 Wecker Road	17	IncoDocs Number INCO-3764-CIRA-578	,		Pages 1 of 1	
Mansfield Brisbane, Queensland, 4122 Australia	-	Shipper Reference DB-12657				
TEL: 0404845957 Ben Thompson	ABC Exports					
technologies etc).	ing calibrated and certified weighing					
	ss of the container to the sum of the ritime and Coastguard Agency (MC			thod approved by the	×	
Container Number	Container Tare (kg) 2300.00	Cargo Weight (kg) 8740.00		Gross Weight (kg) 11040.00		
The shipper hereby centi	ies all the particulars on this ver analism is true and correct.	fied gross mass	Brisbane Signatory (	Date of issue 21 JUN 20: Gerepany	17	
	in respect of containerised cargo		ABC Export Name of Ar	ts thorized Sinnatory		
<ol><li>Weighed on equipment m or Australian National Me</li></ol>	od approved by MNZ or AMSA (for eeting the New Zealand Weights ar asurement Institute (NMI) guideline Procedures for Non-automatic Weij	d Measures Act 1987. I: NITP 6.1 to 6.4	John Can Signature	A.C.		

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### **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. 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.

### **Shipping Documents Required for Export**

### 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

### **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





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### **Shipping Documents Required for Export**

### 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.

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	ideo	
IMPORTER SE	CURITY FILING	
iane and Address	Export Invoice Number & Date 4439 87 Jun 2019	Bit of Lading No BL1234
ABC Exports	Reference 4499	Duper Reference POB811
Address 009	Buyer or Owner Name and Address USA Imports 4300 Longbeach Bivd Longbeach, California, 900007 Umled Tales +15627240557 Enador Ciroto	

	STANLESS STEEL		ALC COVER 1	
Container Stuffing Lo ABC Exports ISOD Logan Road		Place at 840354	d Cute of Issue NE	67 Jun 2019
brisbane, Queensta Australia 6140454555 John Smith	nd, 4000	Signator ABC EX	y Company PORTS	
oreoldator (Stuffer)	Name and Address	Name d JOHN	Authorized Signatory SMITH	
ABC Exports IS00 Logan Road Srisbane, Queensia Iunitralia -0140404000 Auto Swith	nd, 400	Signatur	-15	
	D		$\mathcal{D}$	
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Exporter ABC Exports			Pag 14
ADU, Logona Roed Brisbare, Queensland, 4000 Australia 41:4044006 John Smith	ABC Exports	Experi Invice Number & Date 9177 28 Jan 2020 Reference	Bit of Lading Number
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Vessel / Aircraft ENMA MAERSK	Vityage No 211		
Port of Loading Drisbane	Date of Departure 23 Jan 2020	1	
Port of Discharge Long Beach	Final Destination LONGREACK, USA	1	
Additional Information		Place and Date of Issue Brisbane Signatury Company ADC Exports	20 Jan 3
		Name of Authorized Signatory John Smith	
		Sil	1

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### **Landed Cost Calculations**

### How to Calculate the Landed Cost of Imported Goods

Businesses must have a good understanding of what the landed cost of imported products will be in advance so that they can make smart decisions for their business. If a business is planning to import products and on-sell them in their market, then they must have a good idea of what the actual final landed cost is for each item.

Understanding the landed cost of imported products allows business to plan how much capital will have to be invested to purchase products and get them delivered through to location. On top of that, it also helps businesses to plan their sell prices and profit figures that will eventuate when the products are sold. If businesses do not take the time to understand their landed cost, they could be faced with unexpected fees and charges which could make importing the products nonviable. Calculating the landed cost requires an understanding of some key costs and correctly applying them to each product to get the final landed cost per item.

#### Read the full article with examples of landed cost calculations here.

#### **Use a Landed Cost calculator**

Calculating the landed cost per item can be a long, time consuming process. On top of that, if you make any mistakes in the calculations then your projections could be well under or over the actual charges. To support importers during the landed cost process, our team created a simple to use Landed Cost Calculator.

# Use the free Landed Cost Calculator

Automatically calculate landed costs & sell pricing.



- Calculate landed costs broken down per product
- Calculate landed costs by Cubic Volume (m3) or Weight
- Add Markup or Margin to calculate sell pricing & profit
- Save and Download PDF cost calculation reports
- View live foreign exchange rates

Get Started

### **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:**

Download the full glossary chart online
Enter your search terms to view results

GLOSSARY OF SHIPPING TERMS		
Q Advance		
Advanced Payment	Cash in advance	
		N <sup>2</sup>

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