

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND TERMINOLOGY – PORTS

Terminology	- Explanation
Act of God	- Accident of a nature beyond human control
Agent	- Person / organisation authorised to act on behalf of other party
Agency fee	- Fee payable by ship owner / operator to port agent
Anchorage	- Suitable place for ship to anchor in relation to wind, current, seas and bottom.
Apron	- Quay area / width available for loading / unloading activities.
Back haul	- Return voyage of vessel, which provided transport in one direction.
BAF	- Bunker Adjustment Factor – factor applied by lines against fuel cost fluctuations.
Ballast	- Non-paying material in tanks / holds to obtain required draft, term for empty ship.
Baltic Exchange	- Location in London where ship and cargo owners meet
Barge	- Propelled / non-propelled flat cargo carrying unit
Berth	- Location in port where vessel can be moored.
Bill of Lading – B/L	- Document giving evidence of contract of carriage, proof of entitlement to cargo.
Block coefficient	- Measure to determine fullness of vessels, displacement (length x breadth x draught)
Bonded goods (area) – B/G	- Dutiable goods stored in transit (area) pending customs clearance / payment of duties
Board-board operations	- Transfer of cargo directly between vessels.
Bonded goods / warehouse	- Goods stored in charge of customs until import duties are paid or goods are exported.
Break bulk	- Non-unitised conventional general cargo in parcels, bags, boxes, crates, etc
Break bulk vessel	- Conventional general cargo vessel.
Broker	- Party between the ship and cargo owner who makes the contract between the two
Brokerage	- Remuneration for brokers time / effort in negotiating chartered party, expressed as % of freight.
Bulk cargo	- Dry bulk cargo loaded by conveyor, pouring or grabs or unloaded through suction.
Bulk carrier – also bulker	- Vessel designed to carry homogeneous loose dry cargo, e.g. ore, grain, coal, etc.
Bulk freight container	- Strengthened container for bulk cargo.

Bunkers	- Marine fuel for vessels main propulsion and auxiliary engines
Bunker Clause	- Time Charters stipulate that charterer accepts / pays for all fuel at port delivery
Buoyancy	- Degree of floatability of an object
Cabotage	- Transportation within the borders of the country.
Call	- Visit of a vessel in port.
Call sign	- Unique 4-digit code for vessel published by the International Telecommunications Union.
Cape size (bulker / tanker)	- Bulker / tanker too large to navigate Suez or Panama Canal (abt.1,20,000/1,70,000 DWT).
Cargo	- Goods on B/L – any goods other than ship's stores / equipment / spare parts.
Cargo handling	- Procedures necessary for the physical handling of goods.
Carriers	- Party which undertakes transport of goods from one point to another
Carrier haulage	- Inland transport by sea-carrier under terms / conditions of tariff on transport document
Certificate of origin	- Certificate stating original country of production of goods
CFS – Container Freight Station	- Area where parcels of goods are grouped and packed into containers
Charter party – C/P	- Contract with conditions for the transport of cargo, or for the hire of the vessel
Charterer	- Legal person who signed C/P with vessel owner and thus hires vessel on C/P terms
Chemical carrier	- Vessel designed for carriage of one grade of chemicals
Chemical tanker	- Vessel designed for carriage more grades of chemicals
CIF – Costs, Insurance, Freight	- Goods in transit where buyer paid the goods, including insurance and shipping costs
Claim	- Charge made against carriage for loss or damage of cargo or for delays
COA – Contract of Affreightment	- Agreement for vessel to carry specified quantity on specified time on specified route
Complement	- Total ships crew : captain, officers, ratings
Congestion	- Accumulation of vessels in port to the extent other vessels have to wait for a berth
Consignment	- Goods transported between locations on one B/L, may concern more pieces / consignees
Consortium	- Form of Co-operation between carriers to operate in particular trade / commodity

Container	- (Metal) cargo box as defined by SO standards, 8/12/20/40/45 fit, etc.
Container depot / yard	- Storage area for empty containers/ area where containers are exchanged between parties
Container terminal	- Location where containers are loaded / discharged into / from transport mode
Container vessel	- Vessel designed for the carriage of containers
Container yard – also marshalling yard	- Yard where full or empty containers are exchanged with merchants
Contraband	- Goods forbidden to be imported or exported by national law
Cross Trades	- UNCTAD term including trades between countries where the vessel is not registered
Cruise vessel	- Passenger vessel for holiday purposes, making scheduled tourist visits at ports
Cu m / ft	- Cubic meter / Feet
Current	- Horizontal movement of water caused by tides or wind
Customs	- Department of Civil Service dealing with levies / duties / taxes on imported goods
Dead-freight	- Damages to be paid to cargo owner due to shortages of cargo loaded
Demurrage	- Fee agreed in charter party to be paid to charterer in case lay time is exceeded
Dispatch – days / money	- Sum agreed in charter party to be paid to owner when lay time less than allowed
Draft / draught	- Vertical distance between the waterline and the keel expressed in meters
Draft survey	- Survey undertaken to determine quantity of cargo through draft measurement
Dwell time	- Time the cargo is in port before loaded on ship / collected for transport to owner
DWT	- Dead Weight Tonnage – Total weight of all cargo, stores, bunkers, ballast, crew, etc.
DWT Cargo capacity	- Maximum weight of cargo the vessel can carry (less stores, bunkers, etc)
Duty Free Zone	- Area where goods are stored without paying import duties awaiting further actions
ETA / ETD / ETR	- Estimated Time of Arrival / Departure / Readiness (of transport mode)

Fairway	- Navigable channel for vessels between marked boundaries
Fender	- Cushion place between the vessel and other objects /quay to prevent damage
Ferry	- Vessel carrying passengers / cargo between two ports
FEU	- (Container of) Forty Foot Equivalent Unit
Floating crane	- Crane mounted on barge or pontoon
Force Majeur	- Occurrence outside human control
FP/R	- Fully Pressurized / Refrigerated (gas tankers)
Franchise	- Amount, which in case of damage, will have to be born by the assured
Free Trade Zone	- Area outside customs, where cargo activities take place (processing / upgrading)
GATT	- General Agreement on tariffs and Trade, located in Geneva
GMT	- Greenwich Mean Time
GRT / GT – Gross-Register- Tons	- Indication of vessel's gross cargo capacity in register tons · 100 cubic feet / cubic tons or 2.83 m ³
Harbour	- Geographical location / Place of shelter for ships
High Seas	- Maritime area outside jurisdiction of any state
Hinterland	- Inland area / region served by the port
Hire	- Money paid on a Time Charter by the charterer to the vessel owner
IAPH	- International Association of Ports & Harbours located in Japan
Idle Time	- Amount of ineffective time where available resources are not used
Indemnity	- Liability of insurer for loss under insurance policy
Infrastructure	- System of rail, roads, waterways, airfields, ports and/or telecommunication networks
Inter-coastal	- Operation between different coastal areas
Inter-modal transport	- Movement of cargo without reloading with two or more transport methods
Itinerary	- Route of a ship, indicated by names of ports and their ETA / ETD
Jettison	- Act of throwing property / cargo overboard to save the ship
Jetty	- Mole or breakwater to protect harbour from sea – some time also used as quay / pier
Knots(k)	- (unit of measuring, vessel speed in) nautical miles per hour (1852 meter / 6076 feet)

Lay days	- Specific time the ship must arrive at loading port ready for loading
Lay time	- Time agreed in charter party for loading / discharging without incurring demurrage
Lighterage	- (Price paid for) Transfer / carriage of goods within the harbour area by barge
Logistics	- Planning / execution / control movement / placement people / goods + supporting activities
Measurement ton – MT	- Ton of 1 m ³ water – Measure to determine freight for volume cargo – a MT = 40 cubic feet
Nautical miles – nmiles	- Measure to indicate maritime distances – (1 nmile = 1,852 meters)
NOR – Notice of Readiness	- Statement vessel is ready to load / discharge / cargo is available – begin of lay time
NRT – Net Register Tons	- Vessel capacity indicator for net cargo space – (excluding non-cargo hold spaces)
Offshore	- Contracting work carried out at sea – drilling, etc
On carriage	- Onward carriage of goods to place of delivery after discharge from ocean vessel
Panamax vessel	- Ship designed to maximum Panama Canal dimensions (about 75,000 DWT)
Parcel size	- Amount of cargo in one consignment
Pay load	- Revenue producing cargo
Pilferage	- Petty stealing of goods from ship's hold, cargo shed or warehouse
P&I – Protection & Indemnity – club	- Association of ship owners for protection against financial risks not covered by insurance
Port costs / disbursement	- Charges normally paid by ship owner to Port Authority for use of port facilities
Seaworthiness	- Fitness vessel to cross open sea proven by availability of Certificate of Seaworthiness
SHEX	- Sundays and Holidays excluded
Ship / shipping agent	- Carriers representative in port to facilitate arrival / clearance, un/loading, etc.
Shipment	- See Consignment
Shipper	- Cargo owner or representative of cargo owner – also Consignor
SSS – Short Sea Shipping	- Shipping with coastal vessels – generally under 6000 G(R)T or 10,000 DWT

Stevedore	- Party involved in (un)loading / stowing of cargo, owner / lessor of quays, cranes, sheds, etc.
Storage	- Placing of goods into / the state of the goods in a store / warehouse
Suez Max	- Tanker designed to maximum (draft) dimensions of the Suez Canal (about 1,30,000 DWT)
Survey(or)	- Party responsible for checking vessel or cargo Periodical maintenance / dry docking / repair of vessel
Tank (container)	- (ISO) Container surrounded by frame designed for transport of liquids / gases in bulk
Tanker – oil / chemical / wine / gas etc	- Ship designed for the carriage of liquid cargoes
Terminal	- Entry / exit / storage location for container ship / shore operations
TEU – Transport Equivalent Unit	- Measure of container capacity expressed in terms of 20 ft units
Third Party Liability	- Liability of one ship to another consequent upon a collision
Time Charter – TC	- Vessel chartered for specified fee / specified period, ship owner continues to manage
TOC	- Terminal Operating Company – party responsible for activities on (container) terminal
Tonne	- Metric Ton = 0.9842 long tons / 2,240 lbs = 1,102 short tons
Transshipment	- Cargo transfer between (large and small – feeder) vessel for onward transport
Transit cargo	- Cargo remaining on board at port for subsequent destination
Tug	- Vessel designed to assist vessels in (un)berthing, pushing, towing or salvaging
Turnaround time	- Period of time it takes for ship to complete a round voyage
ULCC	- Ultra Large Crude Carrier (tanker with sizes in excess of 3,00,000 DWT)
Ullage	- Deficiency of liquid contained in drum or tank (empty space on top of cargo)
VLCC / VLPC	- Very Large Crude / Product Carrier (1,50/2,80,000 DWT and >Panamax respectively)
Voyage costs	- Vessel operating costs associated with sailing (basically fuel & port costs)
Waiver	- Incidental permit to perform activities which are usually restricted to other parties
Wharfage	- Fee charged for use of wharf for mooring, loading / unloading of vessels or for storing goods

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND TERMINOLOGY – LIQUID CARGO
(Oil / Chemical / Gas Industry)

Chemical / gas trade abbreviations	- Explanation
ACN	- Acrylonitrile
AC	- Allyl Chloride
BTX	- Benzene / Toluene / Xylene
C2	- Ethylene
C3	- Propylene
C4	- Butadiene
EDC	- Ethylene dichloride
Edible products	- Animal & vegetable oils and fats + molasses
Flash Point	- Lowest temperature at which goods can become flammable
Inorganic chemicals	- Phosphoric / sulphuric / hydrochloric etc. acid, ammonia, caustic soda
SBR	- Styrene Butadiene Rubber – artificial rubber
VAM	- Vinyl Acetate Monomer – base for polyvinyl compounds
VCM	- Vinyl Chloride Monomer – chemical gas
LNG / NGL	- Liquefied Natural Gas / Natural Gas Liquids
CNG	- Compressed Natural Gas
LPG	- Liquid Petroleum Gas
LAN	- Low Aromatic Naphtha
POL	- Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants
LDO	- Light Diesel Oil
ATF	- Aviation Turbine Fuel
SKO	- Superior Kerosene Oil
TDI	- Toluene Disocyanate Highly Toxic Compound
UNDG number	- L1 digit number assigned by UN Committee of Experts classifying dangerous substances
NH ₃	- Ammonia – base for fertilizers