



# **Certified in Logistics, Transportation and Distribution**

**International Transportation  
Documents**





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# **International Transportation Documents**

## **1. Bill of Lading (BOL)**

The bill of lading is one of the most important international transportation documents. Issued by the ocean carrier, it serves as a receipt of goods, a contract of carriage, and a negotiable document of title. It includes shipper and consignee information, vessel details, cargo description, weight, container numbers, and port information. A clean BOL indicates goods were loaded in apparent good condition. Errors can cause severe delays in customs clearance or prevent the consignee from taking delivery. Understanding negotiable vs. non-negotiable BOLs is crucial for trade finance, ownership transfer, and secure cargo movement.

## **2. Air Waybill (AWB)**

The air waybill is a non-negotiable transport document issued by airlines for air freight shipments. It acts as a contract of carriage, evidence of receipt, and freight bill. Unlike a BOL, it does not confer ownership and cannot be consigned to order. It contains details such as shipper, consignee, routing, weight, commodity description, and charges. AWBs also support electronic tracking systems used globally. Accurate information ensures smooth customs clearance and minimizes the risk of shipment holds, especially for time-sensitive cargo. Understanding AWB structure is key for evaluating air freight liability and documentation requirements.

## **3. Multimodal / Combined Transport Document**

This document covers shipments using two or more modes of transportation under a single contract. Issued by a

multimodal transport operator (MTO), it simplifies logistics by eliminating the need for separate documents for each leg of transport. It may or may not be negotiable. The document clarifies liability across carriers, often governed by international conventions like the UNCTAD/ICC Rules. It includes pickup and delivery locations, cargo details, and transport routes. Mastery of multimodal documents helps logistics managers reduce complexity, improve visibility, and streamline global supply chains.

#### **4. Sea Waybill**

A sea waybill is a non-negotiable transport document used in ocean shipping. Unlike a traditional BOL, it does not function as a document of title, meaning cargo can be released without producing an original document. This speeds up clearance, making it suitable for trusted trading partners or low-risk shipments. It still serves as a receipt and contract of carriage. Sea waybills reduce administrative burdens, eliminate risks of lost documents, and support electronic documentation. Understanding when to use a sea waybill helps optimize transit time and reduce paperwork delays.

#### **5. Charter Party Bill of Lading**

This type of BOL is used when vessels operate under a charter party agreement. It reflects terms negotiated between the charterer and the shipowner, which may differ significantly from standard carrier terms. Because charter parties often shift responsibilities, risks, and liabilities, banks may refuse to accept charter party BOLs in letters of credit. Exporters must understand the underlying charter contract, vessel conditions, and liabilities. Familiarity with

these documents is essential when handling bulk shipments, project cargo, or chartered vessel operations.

## **6. Dock Receipt / Warehouse Receipt**

A dock receipt or warehouse receipt acknowledges that the cargo has been received at the terminal or warehouse for export. It acts as a precursor to the bill of lading. Terminal operators use it to verify cargo details, packaging, marks, and condition. Accurate documentation ensures cargo is loaded correctly and prevents errors in the final BOL. This document is critical for maintaining an audit trail and validating handover between shippers and carriers. Understanding dock receipts helps ensure cargo integrity and accurate transport documentation.

## **7. Booking Confirmation (Carrier Booking Note)**

The booking confirmation is issued by the carrier or freight forwarder to confirm space availability on a vessel, aircraft, or truck. It includes shipping dates, equipment type, routing, and special handling instructions. It forms the basis for shipment planning and must match details included in the BOL or AWB. Incorrect or missing information can result in misbooking or failure to load the cargo. Mastering booking documentation ensures that shipments move as scheduled and reduces risk of demurrage or detention charges.

## **8. Export Cargo Shipping Instruction (CSI)**

The CSI is prepared by the exporter to instruct the carrier or freight forwarder on how to prepare transport documents. It includes shipper details, consignee, Incoterms, cargo description, and handling requirements. Clear CSIs help

avoid errors in the bill of lading, prevent customs issues, and ensure correct data submission. When CSIs are incomplete or unclear, carriers may input incorrect information, leading to document discrepancies and delays. Understanding CSIs improves document accuracy and supports efficient export execution.

## **9. Dangerous Goods Declaration (DGD)**

The dangerous goods declaration certifies that hazardous materials are handled, packaged, and labeled according to international standards—IMDG (ocean) or IATA DGR (air). It includes hazard classes, UN numbers, packaging details, and emergency information. Carriers rely on the DGD to ensure safe transportation. Incorrect documentation can result in fines, rejected cargo, or serious safety incidents. Mastery of DGD requirements is crucial for compliance, risk mitigation, and efficient movement of dangerous goods.

## **10. Certificate of Origin (COO)**

The certificate of origin confirms the manufacturing country of goods. It is required for customs clearance, preferential tariff claims, and trade agreement compliance. COO is often issued by chambers of commerce or trade bodies. It may be generic or specific to free trade agreements (e.g., USMCA, ASEAN, EU FTAs). Inaccurate COOs can cause customs delays, denial of duty preferences, or penalties. Understanding COO formats and verification procedures ensures cost savings and smoother international transactions.

## **11. Inspection Certificate**

Importing countries or buyers may require an inspection

certificate to verify quality, quantity, or compliance before shipment. These certificates may be issued by third-party agencies such as SGS, Bureau Veritas, or Intertek. They help ensure that cargo meets contractual specifications. Failure to provide required certificates may lead to customs refusal, fines, or claims. Mastering inspection documentation helps exporters avoid disputes and ensures smooth shipment acceptance at destination.

## **12. Insurance Certificate**

The insurance certificate provides evidence that cargo insurance coverage is in place for international transport. It outlines the insured value, type of coverage, transit route, and claims procedures. Depending on the Incoterm, either the exporter or importer may be responsible for purchasing insurance. Without accurate documentation, claims may be denied. Understanding insurance certificate requirements helps reduce financial risks and ensures compliance with trade finance and carrier requirements.

## **13. Shipping Manifest**

A shipping manifest is prepared by carriers and lists all cargo loaded on a vessel, aircraft, or vehicle. It includes cargo details, container numbers, weights, and documentation references. Customs authorities use manifests for security screening and verification. Any discrepancy between manifest and BOL can cause customs delays or fines. Mastering manifest requirements ensures alignment of all shipping documents and supports smooth customs clearance.

## **14. Freight Bill / Freight Invoice**

The freight bill is issued by the carrier as the invoice for transportation services. It includes freight charges, surcharges, accessorials, and payment terms. Accurate freight bills are essential for cost visibility and auditing. Errors in freight bills may lead to overpayment or disputes. Understanding how freight invoices align with BOL or AWB information supports better financial management and logistics cost control.

## **15. Export Declaration (EEI, CN22/CN23, etc.)**

Export declarations allow governments to collect export statistics and enforce trade controls. Depending on the country, this may include EEI (U.S.), CN22/CN23 (postal), or electronic export declarations in Europe or Asia. Missing or incorrect declarations can result in customs penalties and shipment delays. Exporters must understand thresholds, exemptions, and reporting requirements. Mastery ensures compliance and smooth export operations.

## **16. Transit Document (T1/T2, In-Bond Documents)**

Transit documents allow cargo to move through intermediate countries without paying duties. Examples include the EU's T1/T2 transit documents or the U.S. in-bond system. These documents ensure customs can track goods under suspension of duties. Errors may cause delays, fines, or loss of transit privileges. Understanding transit procedures helps optimize routing and reduces costs associated with customs controls.

## **17. Delivery Order**

A delivery order is issued by the carrier or its agent



authorizing the release of cargo to the consignee. It is required for cargo pickup at destination ports. Carriers issue it only after freight charges are paid and original documents are submitted (for negotiable BOLs). Delays in obtaining the delivery order lead to demurrage and storage charges. Understanding delivery order requirements ensures smooth cargo retrieval and timely last-mile transport.

### **18. Letter of Credit Transport Documents**

Transport documents submitted under letters of credit must strictly comply with UCP 600 rules. Banks verify BOLs, AWBs, and multimodal documents against LC terms. Any discrepancy may delay payment. Exporters must understand LC requirements—document title, signatures, dates, and consistency across documents. Mastery ensures secure payment and avoids documentation discrepancies that disrupt trade.

### **19. Shipper's Letter of Instructions (SLI)**

The SLI provides detailed instructions from the exporter to the freight forwarder regarding shipment handling, export documentation, Incoterms, routing, and filing requirements. It also authorizes the forwarder to file export declarations. Using an SLI reduces errors and ensures obligations are clearly understood. Mastery of SLI use boosts communication and improves documentation accuracy in international shipments.

### **20. Proof of Delivery (POD)**

The proof of delivery confirms that the shipment was delivered to the final consignee in good condition. It may include signatures, timestamps, and delivery notes. POD is

essential for closing the shipment cycle, validating carrier performance, and resolving claims. Understanding POD processes ensures proper documentation of final delivery and supports efficient freight payment and claims handling.

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# Micro-Learning Programs in Supply Chain Management & Procurement



Enhance your professional edge with Fhyzics Business Consultants' Micro-Learning Programs in Supply Chain Management and Procurement. Designed as focused, two-hour Executive Development Programs, these sessions deliver practical insights and tools to solve real-world business challenges. Conducted in small batches for personalized learning, participants gain a deeper understanding of key supply chain and procurement strategies that drive efficiency and profitability. Each participant receives a certificate of completion, adding value to their professional profile and career growth. Whether you aim to advance in your current role or explore new opportunities, this program equips you with the knowledge and confidence to excel.



# Micro-Learning Programs in Supply Chain Management



1. Fundamentals of Supply Chain Management
2. Supply Chain Planning and Optimization
3. Demand Forecasting Techniques
4. Inventory Control and Management
5. Distribution and Logistics Strategy
6. Warehouse Layout and Operations Efficiency
7. Supply Chain Risk Management
8. Supply Chain Performance Metrics (KPIs)
9. Lean Supply Chain Practices
10. Agile and Responsive Supply Chains
11. Sales and Operations Planning (S&OP)
12. Supply Chain Network Design
13. Supply Chain Digital Transformation
14. AI and Data Analytics in Supply Chain
15. Supply Chain Sustainability and Green Logistics
16. Reverse Logistics and Returns Management
17. Supply Chain Collaboration and Integration
18. Supplier Relationship Management in SCM
19. Global Supply Chain Strategy
20. Transportation Management Systems (TMS)
21. Inventory Optimization Models
22. Demand-Driven MRP (DDMRP) Concepts
23. Blockchain Applications in Supply Chain
24. Supply Chain Cost Reduction Techniques
25. SCOR Model and Process Improvement



# Micro-Learning Programs in Supply Chain Management ...



26. Capacity Planning and Resource Allocation
27. Managing Supply Chain Disruptions
28. End-to-End Supply Chain Visibility
29. Cold Chain Logistics Management
30. Supply Chain Compliance and Ethics
31. Import–Export Procedures and Documentation
32. Managing Third-Party Logistics (3PL) Providers
33. Supply Chain Collaboration Technologies
34. Production Planning and Scheduling
35. Strategic Supply Chain Design Using Case Studies
36. Circular Economy in Supply Chain
37. Vendor-Managed Inventory (VMI)
38. Transportation Optimization Techniques
39. E-Commerce Supply Chain Models
40. Omni-Channel Fulfillment Strategies
41. Warehouse Automation and Robotics
42. SCOR DS Roadmap for Supply Chain Excellence
43. Customer-Centric Supply Chain Strategies
44. Supply Chain Finance and Working Capital Management
45. Supply Chain Data Visualization Using Power BI
46. Strategic Sourcing in Supply Chain Context
47. Supply Chain Benchmarking and Best Practices
48. Integrated Business Planning (IBP)
49. Supply Chain in Crisis Management and Recovery
50. Future Trends and Technologies in Supply Chain

# Micro-Learning Programs in Procurement



1. Fundamentals of Procurement Management
2. Strategic Sourcing and Category Management
3. Supplier Selection and Evaluation
4. Contract Management Essentials
5. Cost and Price Analysis in Procurement
6. Negotiation Strategies for Procurement Professionals
7. E-Procurement and Digital Tools
8. Procurement Planning and Budgeting
9. Risk Management in Procurement
10. Supplier Relationship and Performance Management
11. Sustainable and Ethical Procurement
12. Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) Analysis
13. Make-or-Buy Decision Frameworks
14. Procurement Policies and Governance
15. Procurement in Public vs. Private Sectors
16. Procurement Audit and Compliance
17. Procurement Data Analytics and Reporting
18. Procurement Scorecards and KPIs
19. Strategic Supplier Partnerships
20. Category Strategy Development
21. Managing Global and Offshore Procurement
22. Negotiation Simulation Workshop
23. Contract Law for Procurement Managers
24. Cost Reduction Strategies in Procurement
25. Supplier Risk Assessment Models

# Micro-Learning Programs in Procurement ...



26. Procurement Process Mapping and Improvement
27. Procurement Automation and AI Applications
28. Managing Procurement Teams Effectively
29. Procurement Ethics and Transparency
30. Procurement in the Digital Supply Chain
31. Vendor Consolidation Strategies
32. Spend Analysis and Optimization
33. Demand Forecasting for Procurement
34. E-Auction and Reverse Bidding Techniques
35. Inventory and Procurement Alignment
36. Procurement in Project-Based Organizations
37. Supplier Onboarding and Development
38. Procurement Market Intelligence
39. Measuring Supplier Innovation
40. Procurement in Times of Supply Disruption
41. Cross-Functional Collaboration in Procurement
42. Writing Effective RFPs, RFQs, and RFIs
43. Contract Negotiation Best Practices
44. Green Procurement and Circular Economy
45. Legal Aspects of Procurement Contracts
46. Performance-Based Contracting
47. Procurement Leadership and Strategic Influence
48. Cost Avoidance and Value Creation in Procurement
49. Managing Procurement with Power BI Dashboards
50. Future Skills and Trends in Procurement



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