

Module 7

Section C: Facilitate Export/Import, Customs Clearing, and Documentation

Term

Air waybill (AWB)

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A bill of lading for transporting domestic or international freight by air. It specifies the destination and terms of trade agreed upon by the shipper and transportation organization.

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Bill of lading (house) (B/L)

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A bill of lading issued by a non-vessel-operating common carrier (NVOCC), consolidator, or freight forwarder. It indicates the carrier's name and lists the master bill of lading. See: bill of lading (master).

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Bond

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A long-term debt of a firm.

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Carnet

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Temporary admission granted to goods that are passing through a country rather than being imported into it. The goods can cross several boundaries duty-free and tax-free without customs inspection. Disposable and consumable items are excluded. Syn.: ATA carnet.

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Certificate of analysis

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A certification of conformance to quality standards or specifications for products or materials. It may include a list or reference of analysis results and process information. It is often required for material custody transfer.

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Certificate of free sale

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A certificate that attests that the goods can be legally sold in the country of export. The intent is to prevent defective products from being exported.

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Certificate of inspection

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A certificate provided by an independent inspection organization attesting to the accuracy of the value and authenticity of the goods as listed on the invoice. The exporter obtains this preshipment certificate in the exporting country.

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Certificate of insurance

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A certificate, required under some terms of trade, that attests that a particular shipment has insurance coverage. It is provided by the exporter's insurance company.

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Certificate of manufacture

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A certificate that attests that the goods were manufactured in the exporter's country. It is provided and signed by the exporter's chamber of commerce.

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Certificate of origin

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A document attesting to a shipment's country of origin.

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Commercial invoice

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An official document indicating the names of the seller and buyer, the product being shipped, and its value. The document is provided by the seller.

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Consular invoice

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A special invoice used for goods being sent to the importer's country. The importing country's consulate provides the stationery. The invoice is written in the language of the importing country and may require a government employee's signature.

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Duty

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A tax levied by a government on the importation, exportation, or use and consumption of goods.

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Electronic export information (EEI)

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An electronic declaration of merchandise leaving the United States for export to a foreign country.

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Export license

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A document received from a governmental agency authorizing a certain quantity of an export to be sent to a given country.

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Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS)

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The US International Trade Commission's mechanism by which international tariffs are standardized. Importers and exporters classify goods moved across international borders using the harmonized system of the country of import. Then based on this classification the [this concept] is used to determine the amount of tariff they must pay.

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Harmonized system classification codes

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An internationally standardized description of goods that uses a system of numbers to provide increasingly detailed classification and descriptions.

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Import license

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An importing country's government document that provides an importer with the express authorization to import a particular product.

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Joint venture

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An agreement between two or more firms to risk equity capital to attempt a specific business objective.

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Licensing

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Paying a fee for permission to manufacture and sell a product created by another.

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Ocean bill of lading

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A contract between an ocean carrier and a shipper arranging for carriage of freight. It provides evidence of the carrier's receipt of the cargo and lists the origin and destination ports, rates, quantities, weight, and any special handling requirements. The shipper is responsible for all losses other than for negligence on the part of the ocean carrier.

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Packing list

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A list showing merchandise packed, a copy of which is sent to the consignee to help verify the shipment. Often used as part of the order picking and processing.

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Pro forma invoice

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A quote provided by a seller/exporter prior to the delivery of products or services, informing the buyer/importer of the price. This document is submitted to customs for valuation purposes.

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Rail waybill

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A freight document that indicates goods have been received for shipment by rail. The shipper receives a copy as a receipt for acceptance.

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Road waybill

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A shipping document used to control shipments of goods for road transport. The document travels with the shipment and serves as a receipt for goods and evidence of the contract of carriage.

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Shipper's export declaration (SED)

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An export/import document prepared by the shipper before a shipment can be exported and presented to a government authority of the country in which the shipper resides. Specifies details on the goods to be shipped, including their value, weight, and destination.