

MSC AIR CARGO INFORMATION MOVES CARGO



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1. MSC DATA CHECKLIST FOR CARGO BOOKINGS

Thank you for choosing MSC Air Cargo for your shipping needs. We value your business and are committed to providing efficient and reliable service. Whilst we understand that many of our customers are both experienced and well informed, the information contained in this publication may help support you in providing detailed and clear guidance to your customers in the preparation of shipment information for MSC Air Cargo flights.

Providing comprehensive information about your goods, including necessary documentation and any special requirements, is essential. This enables our MSC Air Cargo team to:

- Adequately prepare for your shipment
- Ensure safe and compliant transportation
- Minimize potential delays

By following these guidelines, you contribute significantly to our working relationship. Your cooperation allows us to handle your cargo professionally, meeting all safety and legal standards.

We appreciate your attention to these details and look forward to delivering a high-quality service. Our goal is to work together to make your shipping process as smooth and effective as possible, avoiding any possible delay.

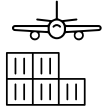
2. MSC AIR CARGO SHIPMENT INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS



TYPE OF INFORMATION	WHY THIS IS REQUIRED	EXAMPLES
<p>Detailed goods descriptions (to identify size, shape and characteristics)</p>	<p>Generic goods descriptions can mean that cargo may not be accurately declared to our operations teams who may need to prepare for the flight. Specific and accurate descriptions of goods at the booking stage will assist all teams involved in the review, handling and operational processes for your shipment.</p> <p>Detailed descriptions can also allow for effective early compliance screening. This will avoid unnecessary exchanges and requests for further information close to flight departure. “gaps” in information regarding the nature of the goods can cause delays at goods acceptance and may result in queries during customs filing.</p>	<p>The use of the term “general or miscellaneous cargo” is not an acceptable description.</p> <p>The use of generic terms such as “clothing” or “machinery” should be avoided and reference to the specific type of commodity should be made:</p> <p>e.g. “cotton shirts” “Drilling machinery”</p> <p>* Please note: Detailed goods descriptions are now a mandatory CBP requirement for shipments imported into and via the US. For further guidance please visit CBP.gov or Examples of Unacceptable vs Acceptable Cargo Descriptions.</p>

TYPE OF INFORMATION	WHY THIS IS REQUIRED	EXAMPLES
Special Handling Codes "SHC" and Special Commodity Codes "SCC"	Use of correct Special Handling Codes "SHC" is essential pre advise for our internal compliance for potential restrictions and for MSC station operations teams for specific planning, handling and loading requirements. This is also crucial for ensuring the availability of appropriate equipment and documentation checks for operational compliance. Certain SCC carry MSC additional documentation requirements and airwaybill liability considerations.	Perishable "PER" or temperature-controlled goods e.g. "COL" requires advance notification to MSC Air Operations. "BUP" shipments require advance notification and triggers the requirement for a signed BUP disclaimer.
HS/Harmonised Commodity Codes	Specific commodity codes are required for MSC internal cargo compliance screening as early as possible to avoid delays. They are also a legal requirement for customs filing in some jurisdictions.	Imports into the European Union require HS Codes for ICS2 regulatory customs requirements. Imports into or via the United States import require detailed commodity descriptions. We advise that customers regularly monitor regulatory guidance for changes to these requirements.
Pre advise of shipments subject to import and export permissions (trade controls)	Shipments which are restricted or controlled may require import or export licenses to comply with trade laws and should be advised to our booking team at the earliest opportunity. Please provide our booking team with documents once available to avoid delay as we may require these for compliance screening verification prior to the flight. It is important that the ultimate shipper and agent understands these regulations and considers transit routing implications for the shipment.	Examples of goods subject to varying trade export controls include, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aircraft spare parts - Vehicles - Various component items which are deemed "dual use".
Weights and Dimensions and total volume	Accurate weights and dimensions are essential for our operations team for flight planning and optimisation.	
Packing and Special Handling Instructions	It is important for our teams to understand how the cargo will be received and any specific instructions and protocol which may be required for the cargo.	Examples of special instructions and protocol requirements would include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Temperature controlled goods - Hazardous/DG materials - Fragile items.

3. UNDERSTANDING MSC COMPLIANCE AND RESTRICTIONS



Cargo Restrictions:

MSC Air Cargo adheres to IATA product resolutions and recommended safe practice in relation to our cargo operations.

To ensure the safety and legality of shipments, we require:

- Accurate information at booking stage
- Appropriate documentation for pre checking, compliance screening, customs filing and flight readiness
- Packaging appropriate to the cargo commodity and in line with IATA regulation
- Adherence to standard operating procedures
- Use of product-specific equipment

We maintain the right to inspect and, if necessary, reject goods that do not meet these requirements. This approach reflects our commitment to upholding the MSC Group's high standards of compliance and ethics.

Our team regularly reviews and updates our risk assessment procedures to ensure the safe and legal transportation of air cargo across our fleet.

Shipment Compliance:

• **Country and trade specific embargoes and restrictions**

We remain vigilant and adhere to global sanctions and embargoes regulations and we reserve the right to refuse any booking which we believe may be in breach of such restrictions. For certain countries, we may require additional information regarding the nature and end use of goods at request and booking stage. We may also request additional documentation.

Note: For certain countries we may also require additional information regarding the nature of the shipment, end use and the consignee for the goods and may request additional documentation.

• **Dangerous Goods**

We restrict or prohibit certain dangerous goods classifications on MSC Air Cargo aircraft for items or substances which may present significant hazard to human life and to aircraft and property. These may include, but are not limited to, items which may carry explosive or fire risk, radioactive materials and toxic gases. Please notify our team of UN numbers and classification at request and booking stage.

• **Batteries**

There are restrictions and special packing requirements in place for the transportation of lithium and sodium batteries. We do not carry single, damaged or defective batteries.

• **Perishable and Temperature Controlled Goods**

We adhere to CEIV certification requirements and IATA standards for the appropriate shipment of goods of this type.

4. PREPARING YOUR CARGO TO FLY

FOR OUR MSC AIR CARGO DATA REQUIREMENTS AT FWB/FHL MESSAGING STAGE please click [here](#)

5. DOCUMENTATION

DOCUMENT TYPE	PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT	STANDARD REQUIREMENT DURING THE SHIPMENT PROCESS
Commercial Invoice	Provides detailed information about the goods being shipped, including value, description, and terms of sale.	Details about the goods can help identify whether commodities fall under controlled categories. Also helpful for ultimate shipper/ consignee details. For certain shipments, we may request this detail at booking stage to provide additional visibility of information on the goods and parties. This is required for customs clearance and tariff determination.
MAWB Copy	Acts as “contract of carriage” between the shipper and the airline. It contains shipment details, tracking information, and is used to track cargo during transit.	May be useful as a cross check with booking data if descriptions are generic or absent.
HAWB Copy	Issued by a freight forwarder to the shipper. Provides cargo and consignment details. Used for tracking and documentation of the goods.	May be helpful in securing more specific details in relation to the nature and specification of the goods for verification purposes. It may also be helpful to us in providing HS codes and DG references if missing from booking or later in messaging data.
Certificate of Origin	Certifies the country in which the goods were manufactured. Required for customs clearance, determining tariffs, and ensuring compliance with trade agreements.	Confirms the origin of goods. This is important for verification of compliance with some export control regulations.

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DOCUMENT TYPE	PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT	STANDARD REQUIREMENT DURING THE SHIPMENT PROCESS
Technical Data Sheet	Provides detailed technical specifications and properties of the goods. Important for compliance with safety regulations and technical standards.	Can be helpful in providing detail against the dual use component matches for commodities. For certain shipments, more detailed specification and properties of the goods may be required at quote or booking stage to determine compliance with safety, technical and export controls regulation.
Packing List	Lists the contents, dimensions, and weight of each package in the shipment. Helps customs officials and logistics providers verify the contents and plan handling/storage.	Helps verify the description and quantity of items, aiding in compliance checks. For certain shipments, we may request the packing list preflight to assist us with additional information on the cargo and to plan our handling requirements.
Manifest	A summary of all the shipments on a flight. Used by customs authorities and airline staff to verify and manage cargo aboard the aircraft.	
Declaration of end use of goods / End Use Certificate (usually for MIL) Export Control License	A statement explaining the intended use of the shipped goods. Helps in assessing export controls and determining if any restrictions or special conditions apply.	Clarifies the end-use, critical for determining if export controls apply. For certain shipments, we may request this at quote stage as this explains the intended use for the goods and helps us to determine if any restrictions, controls or special conditions apply.
Export Control License	A legal document that grants permission to export controlled goods. Ensures compliance with national and international export control laws.	Demonstrates legal authorisation to export controlled items.
Shippers Declaration	A statement made by the shipper attesting to the nature and contents of the shipment, often including hazardous materials declarations for compliance with safety regulations.	The customer warrants the nature of goods and destination (no onward shipment) necessary for identifying controlled or hazardous items or on occasions where additional levels of assurance are sought.
Export Declaration	These documents are used verify regulatory compliance with trade laws and are also used for customs clearance. They include detailed classification and description of the goods and their value.	Examples of an export declaration requirement are luxury fashion items exported to Hong Kong or pharmaceutical goods to Japan for example.

DOCUMENT TYPE	PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT	STANDARD REQUIREMENT DURING THE SHIPMENT PROCESS
<p>Dual use Goods Notification documents for “military” versus “civil” end use</p>	<p>Goods which may be used for civil or military purposes are monitored by the authorities to ensure that they are used for the appropriate purpose and are not diverted to support military proliferation.</p> <p>These items require export licenses and declarations declaring the purpose and the end user to ensure that the goods are not diverted for alternative use.</p>	<p>An example of a dual use cargo item is aircraft engines which contain advanced materials which can enhance fighter aircraft for military use.</p>
<p>Dangerous Goods Declaration “DGD”</p>	<p>This certifies that hazardous goods have been correctly packed, labeled and declared according to IATA regulations. They are required for regulatory compliance, customs clearance and emergency safety information.</p>	<p>Examples of DGD requirement and use would be for the transportation of lithium batteries which carry a fire hazard.</p>



[msc.com/aircargo](https://www.msc.com/aircargo)