



# **MSC TAIWAN TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

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MSC TAIWAN ACTS, UNLESS EXPRESSLY INDICATED OTHERWISE, ALWAYS ON BEHALF AND IN THE NAME OF MSC MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A. (THE "CARRIER").

THE CONTRACT OF CARRIAGE AND ALL SERVICES OF THE CARRIER ARE SUBJECT TO THE CARRIER'S TERMS AND CONDITIONS (EITHER, WHEN A BILL OF LADING IS ISSUED SUBJECT TO THE "*BILL OF LADING STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS*", OR, IN ALL OTHER CASES SUBJECT TO THE "*SEAWAYBILL TERMS AND CONDITIONS*"), THE BOOKING TERMS AND THE LOCAL AGENCY TERMS AND CONDITIONS AT THE PORTS OF LOADING, TRANSSHIPMENT AND DISCHARGE.

## 1. DEFINITIONS

- **MSC or Carrier:** means MSC MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A.,12-14 Chemin Rieu, 1208 Geneva - Switzerland
- **MSC Taiwan:** means Mediterranean Shipping Company (HK) LTD TAIWAN BRANCH, and acting as agent of MSC MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A. only.
- **Merchant:** includes the Booking Party, Shipper, Consignee, holder of a Bill of Lading, the receiver of the Goods and any Person owning, entitled to or claiming the possession of the Goods or the corresponding Bill of Lading or anyone acting on behalf of this Person and when the context so requires means those persons jointly and severally

## 2. APPLICABILITY

- 2.1 In case of any inconsistency between these Agency Terms and Conditions and the Terms and conditions of the MSC Bill of Lading and/or Sea Waybill, the latter shall prevail.
- 2.2 These Agency Terms and Conditions shall be deemed to form part of all contracts between the Merchant and MSC via its local agent MSC Taiwan. Placing any orders and instructions of the Merchant or accepting MSC's or MSC Taiwan's service shall be considered as the Merchant's acknowledgement and acceptance of Agency Terms and Conditions in their entirety.
- 2.3 General Conditions of the Merchant will not be applicable and shall in any way be superseded by these Agency Terms and Conditions and the terms and conditions of the MSC Bill of Lading and/or Sea Waybill. Deviations from these Agency Terms and Conditions and in particular general conditions of the Merchant shall not apply unless this has been explicitly agreed in writing.

## 3. QUOTATIONS

- 3.1 MSC Taiwan acts as agent for and on behalf of MSC MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A. (the "Carrier", "MSC") only. All quotations made by MSC Taiwan are on behalf of the Carrier.
- 3.2 Quotations made by MSC Taiwan are not binding until MSC Taiwan's final booking confirmation has been transmitted in writing to the Merchant. Any quotation will become null and void unless the Merchant has accepted it in writing within 30 days after receipt.

- 3.3 Quoted times and dates for empty positioning and loading are always subject to equipment availability and space. Advertised transit times, sailing and arrival dates are estimated times only; and such schedules may be advanced, delayed or cancelled without notice. In no event shall the carrier be liable for consequential damages or for any delay in scheduled departures or arrivals of any vessel or other conveyances used to transport the goods by sea or otherwise.
- 3.4 All charges are "VATOS" (Valid at Time of Shipment). Unforeseeable and additional expenses (such as statutory increase, war risk, congestion, etc.) before, during and after the sea-carriage may at any time be charged by the Carrier to the Merchant.
- 3.5 Alterations caused by the Merchant, for instance release of cargo to alternative third parties, issuance of switch bills of lading etc., are not included in MSC Taiwan quotations.
- 3.6 Unless stated otherwise and expressly confirmed in writing, each quotation always relates to:
- Harmless goods, being made clear that IMDG cargoes are always and strictly subject to the Carrier and Master's final approval at time of loading
  - Cargo shipped and stowed with "deck option"
  - In gauge cargo, if quoted for open top containers, flat racks and platforms.
- 3.7 The Merchants hereby represent that the cargo value per container load, does not exceed the sum of USD 200 000.00 and they acknowledge that the quotation is based on the representation that the cargo value is less than USD 200 000. In the event that the cargo value exceeds the aforementioned sum and the Merchants fail and/or neglect to notify the Carrier in writing prior to their acceptance of the quotation, the Carrier's liability shall be limited to either USD 200 000 or the limitation as provided for in the Contract of Carriage, whichever the lesser.
- 3.8 High Value Commodity Mis-Declaration Fee - Any cargo with a commercial value exceeding USD 250,000 (two hundred and fifty thousand US Dollars) must be declared to MSC or its agent at the time of booking. Failure by the Merchant to inform MSC will result in the application of a High Value Commodity Mis-Declaration Fee of 25,000 USD (twenty five thousand US Dollars), being expressly agreed that such information to MSC shall not be considered as a declaration of value and the documentation so issued will not be deemed ad valorem unless this has been formally agreed by MSC and the corresponding surcharge paid by the Merchant.

## **4. CARRIER'S RESPONSIBILITY IN TAIWAN JURISDICTION**

- 4.1 The Merchant acknowledges and agrees that pursuant to cl 10.3 of the Carrier's Terms and Conditions the transport contract is subject to English law and the exclusive jurisdiction of the High Court in London, save as otherwise stipulated in cl 10.3. Should nevertheless ever Taiwan law be mandatory applied by any court or tribunal assuming jurisdiction in respect of the Carrier's responsibility, then, in such event, the following shall apply in addition to the Carrier's Terms and Conditions:
- 4.2 **The Carrier shall not be responsible for any fault of his servants or the ship's crew if damage has occurred as a result of fire or explosion on board, or as a result of any act, neglect or default in the navigation or in the management of the ship other than predominantly carried out in the interest of the cargo.**
- 4.3 The same shall apply in relation to any act, neglect or default of a pilot or any other independent person involved in the navigation or management of the ship.

## **5. EXPORT- AND CROSS-TRADE BOOKINGS**

- 5.1 The MSC TAIWAN Booking Confirmation formalizes the transport contract concluded between the Merchant and MSC, as a consequence of which both Booking Party and Shipper become jointly and severally contractual partners of MSC MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S.A.
- 5.2 For any intended booking regarding the shipment of military and/or para-military cargo (defined in the broadest sense as cargo which has or might have a military purpose and/or cargo that is destined to or originating from military or para-military authorities, including so-called dual-use cargo), it is mandatory to submit the following documents to MSC prior to any possible acceptance of such booking: Packing List, Commercial Invoice, HS Codes consisting of minimum 6 digits, full details of the manufacturer and end user of such cargo, copy of the Import License and/or Export License of the importer/exporter of such cargo, final destination of the goods. In any case no booking of military / para-military cargo can be accepted without MSC having received the prior approval from the relevant authorities. Furthermore, compliance policy requirements of MSC will have to be adhered to. Any quotation obtained on the basis of incomplete or inaccurate information as to the nature or value of the goods shall not be binding on MSC and/or shall be considered a material breach of contract, entitling MSC to suspend, modify or cancel the transportation at Merchant's sole risk and expenses, and without prejudice to any other remedy available to the carrier.
- 5.3 The Booking Party and Shipper are responsible for and have to recheck all information provided concerning description of goods, hazardous cargoes, reefer and out of gauge details as well as for the correctness of weights indicated. They must inform MSC or MSC Taiwan immediately in writing in case of any discrepancies or missing details. Any discrepancies or wrong information at the time of receipt of the goods, especially in respect of the cargo's weight, may lead to substantial risk and costs for account of the Merchant and might result in short-shipments. In particular, discrepancies may lead to Status Change costs as per quay / terminal tariff.
- 5.4 Cargo Mis-Description Fee – Merchant is liable for all resulting increased charges, costs, expenses, losses and damages whatsoever if the description of the goods provided at the time of booking or as amended thereafter is inaccurate, unless the inaccuracy is a result of an error or omission on the part of the carrier, its servants or agents. Failure by the Merchant to truthfully, accurately and sufficiently detailed describe the goods to MSC in compliance with Carrier's Terms and Conditions of Carriage (including without limitation the present MSC Agency Terms and Conditions) or any applicable law or regulation, whether intentional or otherwise, will result in the application of a mis-declaration fee of USD 5,000.-. It is further expressly agreed and accepted that such charge is in addition to any and all indemnities available to the carrier under the Terms and Conditions of Carriage.
- 5.5 The Booking Party and Shipper have to check and ensure that the maximum payload complies with all country-specific legal regulations or requirements at origin, in the transit countries and at destination. They are expressly reminded that overstuffing of containers is not permitted by law and the Carrier and may result in severe injuries and casualties for which the Merchant will be held fully liable.
- 5.6 For security reasons all containers for all destinations must be sealed by the Booking Party and Shipper or their representatives with High Security Bolt Seal or equivalent directly after stuffing. Unsealed and incorrectly sealed containers will be resealed upon arrival at the terminal at the Merchant's costs and responsibility and may be short-shipped. Any resulting costs are for account of the Merchant.
- 5.7 Loading and stowage of goods is carried out under sole instructions of the Ship's Command. All goods are stowed "option deck" at Merchant's risk. Requests for "under deck" stowage are subject to written approval and confirmation by MSC or MSC Taiwan.
- 5.8 Payments of Ocean Freight have to be effected in TWD and USD only. Any Bank service charges/ transaction costs are for account of the payer.
- 5.9 Unless expressly agreed otherwise, all invoices are payable immediately and without deduction or rights of retention or of set-off whatsoever.

- 5.10 B/L or Shipping Instructions must be submitted latest at closing time. For shipments to countries/areas requiring an AMS-filing or comparable procedures, special deadlines shall apply. The Booking Party and Shipper are responsible to enquire the specific deadline applicable to their shipment.
- 5.11 The Merchant declares that all used wooden packing materials comply with ISPM 15 regulations.
- 5.12 In consideration of Carrier issuing, at the booking party or the shipper's request, Sea Waybill instead of Bill of Lading for the contract of carriage of the cargo, the booking party and the shipper hereby indemnify the Carrier for all and any claims, losses, costs, expenses and liabilities of any nature whatsoever that arise in consequence of the use of a Sea Waybill instead of a Bill of Lading. The booking party and the shipper further undertake to ensure that the Consignee designated on the Sea Waybill receives a legible copy of, by fax or e-mail, and agrees to abide by, the terms, conditions, exceptions and limitations contained in the Carrier Sea Waybill as freely accessible under [www.msc.com](http://www.msc.com) and to inform the Consignee that a formal letter of acceptance of the MSC Sea Waybill Terms and Conditions will be requested from him at destination prior to delivery, being made expressly clear that oversight from MSC or its agent to obtain such a letter of acceptance prior release of the cargo shall not be deemed in any way as a waiver by MSC of its rights to rely upon, nor as a non-acceptation by the Consignee, of these Terms and Conditions.
- 5.13 Shipping documents will be issued immediately upon receipt of loading confirmation and kept at Merchant's disposition at the MSC Taiwan local office. Transfer and dispatch of documents (by registered mail or courier) will only be effected upon receipt of the Merchant's order confirmation and at his sole risk, expense and responsibility and shall be deemed remitted to the Merchant upon sending.
- 5.14 In case of Merchant's Haulage, the Booking Party and Shipper are responsible for inspecting the empty container for its suitability to carry the specific shipment booked at the time of empty pick up from the depot/terminal either directly or via their truckers. Any later refusal of container will cause additional costs for account of the Merchant and neither MSC nor MSC Taiwan shall be held liable for the costs of changing/replacing a container accepted during empty positioning unless the vice affecting the container was not detectable during a summary check; in which case the costs of the container changing shall be equally shared. Notwithstanding the above, a light-test is compulsory prior to each empty container's acceptance and no liability shall be borne by the Carrier or MSC Taiwan for costs of exchanging a container found with holes or cracks at a later stage.
- 5.15 Booking Party and Shipper are responsible for ensuring that all prior IMO (hazardous goods) placards and labels have been removed from the container before pick-up or latest during stuffing of its non-hazardous cargo. Costs resulting from neglect will be for the account of the Merchant.
- 5.16 The use of dry-van containers in lieu of reefer or temperature-controlled containers is left to the sole Merchant's appreciation and decision and the Carrier shall have no liability or responsibility whatsoever for thermal or condensation loss or damage to the goods sustained by reason of natural variations in atmospheric temperatures whether the cargo was carried on or under deck.
- 5.17 Container's full redelivery to the port prior to loading is only possible by stating the provided delivery reference to the Terminal Interchange and the Merchant and/or its trucker are jointly responsible to ensure proper communication during Gate-In. For container delivery to the ports Taiwan it is mandatory to state the correct vessel name.
- 5.18 The Booking Party, the Shipper and their trucker are jointly responsible to check that the empty container picked up at the depot is used for the booking confirmed by MSC Taiwan for this specific container. Neither MSC nor MSC Taiwan shall be responsible for any costs linked to the repatriation or additional on-carriage costs of wrongly swapped cargoes carried within correct containers due to a mistake during the empty pick-up.

- 5.19 As per the SOLAS Convention (Safety of Life at Sea) it is mandatory for shippers to verify weights of packed containers, regardless of who packed the container. The verification of actual container weight must be obtained on-shore, and provided to the vessel operator and the port terminal facility prior (to VGM cut off) to the vessel loading process. Neither MSC nor MSC Taiwan shall be responsible for any costs linked with the declaration of incorrect container weights.

## **6. HAZARDOUS GOODS / IMDG CARGOES**

- 6.1 Hazardous cargo bookings are only accepted together with a dangerous goods declaration (DGD)
- 6.2 Even if a hazardous cargo booking is accepted by MSC in the first instance, MSC reserves the right to reject the shipment, since final approval is with the Vessel's Master.

## **7. WASTE & SCRAP CARGOES**

- 7.1 The Merchant is responsible to ensure that each booking of waste and/or scrap cargo complies absolutely with the requirements of local law and customs regulations in Taiwan on shipment of waste. Said waste shipment must qualify the industrial waste that may be used as industrial raw material as officially announced by the central competent authority under the Waste Disposal Act and other Taiwan regulations and laws.
- 7.2 Any violation of the Management Regulations for the Import and Export of Industrial Waste will lead to an administrative fine for account of the Merchant in addition to the liability exposed under the Contract of Carriage for any other charges, costs or penalties that may arise for the Carrier due to miss-declaration.

## **8. REEFERS AND TEMPERATURE - CONTROLLED CARGOES**

- 8.1 Reefer cargo bookings are only accepted together with our special reefer booking form, which must be duly filled out and is available upon request at the MSC Taiwan export desk.
- 8.2 Booking Party, Shipper and its representatives are responsible to check the pre-settings of the container prior to stuffing, and MSC or MSC Taiwan shall not be held liable for temperature damages generated by hot stuffing or non-disputed wrong pre-settings.

## **9. EXPORT LOCAL CHARGES (STORAGE / DEMURRAGE / DETENTIONS ETC.)**

The Merchant is asked to check MSC Taiwan Export Local Charges at <https://www.msc.com/twn/country-guides/taiwan/EXPORT-LOCAL-REQUIREMENTS> concerning local charges for ports in other countries, please visit the webpage of the MSC offices at [www.msc.com](http://www.msc.com)

## **10. IMPORT BOOKINGS**

10.1 The provisions and under clauses 4 to 8 above apply mutatis mutandis to the Import bookings

10.2 In addition to the above, the following Form / List must be properly filled out with all corresponding information and provided to MSC TAIWAN for any / all Import Bookings:

- Client reference (if any)
- Pre-carriage (if any)
- POL
- POD
- On carriage (if any)
- Volume
- Commodity
- Shipper
- Freight Forwarder (for export from USA only)
- Origin (for export from USA only)
- Consignee
- Notify
- Notify 2 (if any)
- Rate reference
- Agreed Ocean/Sea-Freight
- Ocean/Sea-freight payable at
- D-THC and local charges payable at
- B/L type
- Estimated time of shipment

## **11. IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR RELEASE OF CARGO**

11.1 No release of cargo/ container(s) will be authorized until the MSC Original Bill of Lading has been duly accomplished / fully executed by presentation and endorsement.

11.2 In case of Sea Waybill / Telex Release, no release of cargo/container(s) will be authorized until a Letter of Indemnity / Undertaking has been signed and stamped by the Consignee through which it acknowledges its acceptance of the MSC Bills of lading Terms and Conditions.

11.3 The Merchant always has and is solely responsible to check container(s) availability in respect of release and/or transportability with the Terminal Interchange before taking delivery to avoid failure trucking and waiting time. MSC and MSC TAIWAN shall not entertain any claim for waiting time or fault-freight if this obligation is neglected.



- 11.4 In case of on-carriage, the Merchant's delivery instruction, together with all required documents, must reach MSC TAIWAN at least four working days prior estimated time of arrival (ETA) at discharge port in order to arrange the positioning. Non-respect of such obligation can lead to important costs, amid others, of storage, monitoring and plugging costs and/or D&Ds and MSC / MSC TAIWAN shall not be held liable for delay and additional costs generated due to a disrespect of this obligation.
- 11.5 The empty container has to be returned to the container depot designated by MSC in a clean, undamaged condition and completely free of cargo residues, with all chemicals, dangerous goods (in accordance with applicable regulations), and fumigation labels removed. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in additional costs for account of the cargo.
- 11.6 Invoices must be paid in TWD and USD without deduction or set-off prior the release of cargo.
- 11.7 Delivery
1. The Merchant shall take delivery of the Goods within the time provided in the Carrier's applicable tariff referred to in Clause 3 of the MSC Bill of Lading and Sea Waybill Terms and Conditions.
  2. Shall the Merchant fail to take delivery of the Goods within ten (10) days of the delivery becoming due under a) above, such delay shall be considered as unreasonable in the meaning of the clause 20 of the MSC Bill of Lading and Sea Waybill Terms and Conditions and the Carrier shall not thereafter have any further responsibilities or liability in respect of these goods.
  3. Notwithstanding the above, the Carrier shall be entitled, without notice, to unpack the Goods and/or to store the Goods ashore, afloat, in the open or under cover, at the sole and entire risk of the Merchant and such storage shall constitute due delivery and the costs of such storage (if paid or payable by the Carrier or any agent or sub-contractor of the Carrier) shall forthwith upon demand be paid by the Merchant to the Carrier.
  4. If, whether by act or omission, the Merchant directly or indirectly prevents, delay or hinder the discharge or the delivery of the Goods, any costs, expenses or liability so resulting shall be for its full and sole account.
- 11.8 Merchant expressly agrees that in the context of any MSC contract of carriage, Delivery Order shall include any means, whether electronic or not and/or whether nominative or not and/or whether cancellable or not, aiming at allowing us to take delivery of the goods. Merchant shall keep the carrier indemnified and fully harmless against any loss, claim, damage or expense of whatsoever nature arising out or in connection with the mis-appropriation of such means of delivery after same is issued to the Merchant.

## **12. IMPORT LOCAL CHARGES (STORAGE/DEMURRAGE/DETENTION ETC.)**

The Merchant is invited to check the MSC TAIWAN Import Local Charges by contacting the Import Desk directly at <https://www.msc.com/twn/country-guides/taiwan/IMPORT-LOCAL-REQUIREMENT> or on the agency website under [www.msc.com](http://www.msc.com). For any local charges in other countries, please visit webpage of the local MSC office.

## **13. LEGAL ADMINISTRATION FEE**

- 13.1 MSC shall charge the Merchant a Legal Administration Fee (LAF) covering the extra coordination / organization work and subsequent follow-up necessitated by any situation of damage or risk of damage to the cargo, container, crew and/or vessel caused or generated by the Merchant's negligence, fault or misconduct. This fee will be charged in addition to the costs actually as the result of the situation itself and its remedy. Its amounts will be of:
- FOR COSTS UP TO 500 USD: 40 USD PER CONTAINER
- FOR COSTS BETWEEN 500 AND 1000 USD: 80 USD PER CONTAINER
- FOR COSTS BETWEEN 1000 AND 2000 USD: 140 USD PER CONTAINER
- FOR COSTS OVER 2000 USD: 200 USD PER CONTAINER
- 13.2 The Carrier and its Agent are authorised to charge the Legal Administration Fee in any other legal currency locally.

## **14. CARGO WEIGHT DECLARATION AND VGM COMPLIANCE, SUBMISSION'S DEADLINE.**

- 14.1 All VGM must be submitted electronically or transmitted to MSC prior loading, failing which containers will not be planned on the scheduled vessel. All costs, consequences shall be on Shipper's account for any delay in submitting VGM, non-submission of VGM and/or for any noncompliance to VGM statutory guidelines.
- 14.2 MSC does not permit its Containers to be used in any manner whatsoever to lift, load, move or carry cargoes that:
- a. are wrongly declared, or
  - b. weigh in excess of the VGM or commercial / manifest weight declared, or
  - c. weigh in excess of the payload of the equipment.
- 14.3 Should MSC be made aware, prior or during carriage, that its Containers have been used in breach of any of the above prohibitions, the container(s) concerned may be refused for loading, kept onboard for return to origin, discharged at the next convenient port and/or corrective measures such as, but not limited to, restuffing into other containers may be taken at MSC' sole discretion and at the Merchant's sole risks and expenses.
- 14.4 Merchant shall be liable towards MSC and its agents for all losses, claims, fines, demands, suits and actions of any kind whatsoever including in respect of death and personal injury, legal and court expenses, whether directly or indirectly resulting from or connected to such unauthorized use of the MSC's Containers.
- 14.5 Any extra work generated due to a breach of any of the above prohibitions shall give rise to an ad hoc surcharge and MSC reserves its rights to exercise its lien over the infringing cargo and/or any other cargo carried on behalf of the Merchant until the costs due to MSC, including surcharge, have been fully paid.

