

Commonly Used Logistics Acronyms

Tomax Logistics Australia



Acronym	Definition	Notes
ACBPS	Australian Customs & Border Protection Service	A government department responsible for all matters in relation to border security and cargo processing
AQIS	Australian Quarantine & Inspection Service	A department of the Australian Government responsible for bio-security, a sub division of DAFF
BAF	Bunker Adjustment Factor	A fuel surcharge applied to ocean freight by shipping lines
BL	Bill of Lading	A transport document – also often used as transference of title to goods
CBM	Cubic Metre	A measurement of cargo determined by multiplying the dimensions of the cargo in metres
CFR	Cost and Freight	INCOTERM meaning the costs for transport up to on board at the port of destination are included in the price.
CFS	Container Freight Station	A depot where freight is consolidated or deconsolidated
CMR	Cargo Management Re-engineering	A project of Australian Customs whereby a new online clearance system was released to industry
CY	Container Yard	A place where full containers are handled
DAFF	Department for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	Parent body of AQIS – Government department
ECN	Export Clearance Number	Generated by a broker for release of cargo for export
EXW	Ex-Works	INCOTERM meaning that the buyer must arrange all transport and pay all costs to move it from the supplier's factory floor
FAK	Freight All Kinds	A term used to identify a container that holds mixed cargos for more than one consignee
FCL	Full Container Load	Generally meaning that the cargo packed into the container is for a single consignee (MBL)
FCX	Full Container Consolidated	A container for a single consignee with cargo combined from multiple suppliers
FOB	Free On Board	INCOTERM meaning the costs for export clearance and transport up to and on board the vessel at port of loading are included in the price.
HBL	House Bill of Lading	A bill of lading issued by a freight forwarder
LCL	Less than a Container Load	Cargo shipped in a container with other consignees cargo due to small volumes
MAWB	Master Air Waybill	Issued by an airline for cargo moving via airfreight – a transport document showing all the details including flight arrangements, cargo details, ports of origin and destination
MBL	Master Bill of Lading	A bill of lading between two principal parties one of which will issue a House Bill of Lading showing ultimate consignee details
NVOCC	Non Vessel Operating Common Carrier	A company that issues bills of lading for cargo transport but does not own or operate any vessels
OBL	Ocean Bill of Lading	Issued by a shipping line for cargo moving via seafreight – a transport document showing all the details including vessel arrangements, cargo details, ports of origin and destination
PSS	Peak Season Surcharge	A surcharge applied by shipping lines during peak times in order to raise further revenue
TEU	Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit	A term used in reporting to measure the number of units moved – a 40' container is equivalent to 2 TEU. Enables standardised measuring for statistics