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Logistics glossary

From B/L to VGM, from demurrage to HS codes: the terms used every day in the industry, with their Turkish equivalents.

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Online interactive version: **https://ozgurkonakci.com/en/guide/logistics-glossary/**

SHORT ANSWER

This glossary explains the abbreviations and terms most often used in logistics and international trade in plain language, with their Turkish equivalents. You can search, filter by category and jump to the guide topic where each term is covered in detail.

How to use the glossary

Type an abbreviation (e.g. *HBL*), an English term (e.g. *demurrage*) or a Turkish equivalent (e.g. *ordino*) in the search box and the list filters instantly. Use the category buttons to see only documents, charges or customs terms. If a term is covered in detail in a guide topic, the definition ends with a link to it.

Turkish equivalents are included because this guide is written for readers in Türkiye as well; they also help when working with Turkish partners and documents.

Terms

0–9

3PL

Third-party logistics provider · TR: Üçüncü taraf lojistik sağlayıcı

A company that provides outsourced logistics services such as warehousing, distribution and transport.

4PL

Fourth-party logistics provider · TR: Dördüncü taraf lojistik sağlayıcı

A provider that manages the customer's supply chain as a whole and coordinates several 3PLs.

A

A.TR

A.TR movement certificate · TR: A.TR dolaşım belgesi

A certificate showing that industrial goods are in free circulation under the Türkiye–EU Customs Union. It proves free circulation status, not origin.

ADR

Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road · TR: Tehlikeli Malların Karayoluyla Uluslararası Taşınmasına İlişkin Avrupa Anlaşması

The agreement governing the carriage of dangerous goods by road, covering vehicles, driver training, packaging and documents.

Advising / confirming bank
TR: İhbar / teyit bankası

The bank in the seller's country that advises the credit and, if asked, also confirms it.

All-in rate
TR: Her şey dahil navlun

A price combining base freight and surcharges in one figure. The quote should state which items are included.

Applicant
TR: Akreditif amiri

The party that asks its bank to issue a letter of credit; usually the buyer.

Arrival notice
TR: Varış ihbarı

A notice the carrier or agent sends the consignee and notify party before the cargo arrives, also showing the charges due.

ATA Carnet
TR: ATA karnesi

An international customs document for temporary admission of samples, exhibition goods and professional equipment; issued in Türkiye by chambers of commerce.

AWB
Air Waybill · TR: Hava yolu taşıma senedi

The transport document in air freight, which is not a document of title. The airline issues the MAWB and the forwarder the HAWB.

B

B/L
Bill of Lading · TR: Konşimento

In sea transport, the carrier's receipt for the cargo, evidence of the contract of carriage and, when made out to order, a document of title to the goods.

BAF
Bunker Adjustment Factor · TR: Yakıt ayarlama ek ücreti

A surcharge passing changes in ship fuel prices on to freight; lines update it periodically.

BCO
Beneficial Cargo Owner · TR: Yükün asıl sahibi

The importer or exporter that actually owns the cargo; used especially for large shippers that contract directly with shipping lines.

Beneficiary
TR: Lehtar

The party entitled to payment under a letter of credit or insurance policy. Under an L/C it is usually the seller.

Bill of exchange (draft)
TR: Poliçe

A negotiable instrument ordering the drawee to pay a set sum on a set date to the payee; used in documentary collections and credits.

Blank sailing
TR: İptal edilen sefer

A shipping line cancelling a scheduled sailing or port call. Bookings roll to a later vessel.

Booking
TR: Rezervasyon (booking)

Reserving space and equipment with the carrier on a given sailing; the first step of a shipment.

Booking confirmation
TR: Rezervasyon teyidi

The carrier's confirmation of space, showing vessel, voyage, ports, cut-offs and the depot for collecting the empty container.

Breakbulk
TR: Konvansiyonel (parça) yük

Cargo loaded piece by piece rather than in containers: steel, machinery, project cargo.

BTB
Binding Tariff Information · TR: Bağlayıcı Tarife Bilgisi

A binding administrative ruling, issued on request, on how goods are classified. In Türkiye it is free of charge and valid for 6 years.

Bulk cargo
TR: Dökme yük

Unpackaged cargo loaded straight into the hold: grain, coal, ore, liquid fuel.

Bunker
TR: Bunker (gemi yakıtı)

Ship fuel. Changes in its price are passed on through surcharges such as BAF.

C

C/P
Charter party · TR: Çarter sözleşmesi

The contract hiring a vessel for a voyage or a period of time.

CA
Controlled Atmosphere · TR: Kontrollü atmosfer

Reefer technology that adjusts oxygen and carbon dioxide levels to slow the ripening of fruit and vegetables.

CAF
Currency Adjustment Factor · TR: Kur ayarlama ek ücreti

A surcharge covering exchange-rate differences between the currency of freight and the currency of costs.

Cargo insurance
TR: Kargo (emtia) sigortası

Insurance protecting the cargo owner against loss of or damage to goods in transit, covering losses beyond the carrier's limited liability.

Carrier
TR: Taşıyıcı

The party that undertakes to carry the cargo under a contract of carriage: a shipping line, airline, road haulier or an NVOCC issuing its own document.

Cash in advance
TR: Peşin ödeme

The buyer pays before shipment; the safest method for the exporter.

CBM
Cubic metre · TR: Metreküp

The unit of volume: length × width × height in metres.

Certificate of origin
TR: Menşe şahadetnamesi

A document showing the country where the goods were produced. In Türkiye non-preferential certificates are issued by chambers of commerce and industry.

CFR
Cost and Freight · TR: Masraflar ve navlun

A sea rule under which the seller pays the freight to the port of destination, but risk passes to the buyer when the goods are loaded on board at origin.

CFS
Container Freight Station · TR: Konteyner yük istasyonu

The warehouse where LCL cargo is loaded into (consolidated) or unloaded from and split out of containers.

Chargeable weight
TR: Ücrete esas ağırlık

The greater of actual and volumetric weight; freight is calculated on it.

Charterer
TR: Kiracı (çarterer)

The party that hires a vessel for a voyage or a period under a charter party.

CIC
Container Imbalance Charge · TR: Konteyner dengesizlik ücreti

A surcharge covering the cost of repositioning empty containers to where they are needed.

CIF
Cost, Insurance and Freight · TR: Masraflar, sigorta ve navlun

As CFR, with the seller also taking out marine insurance with at least ICC (C) cover in the buyer's favour.

CIM
CIM consignment note · TR: CIM demiryolu taşıma senedi

The consignment note for international rail carriage under the COTIF/CIM rules.

CIP
Carriage and Insurance Paid To · TR: Taşıma ve sigorta ödenmiş olarak

As CPT, with the seller also taking out insurance with ICC (A) cover in the buyer's favour.

Claused (foul) bill of lading
TR: Kirli (şerhli) konşimento

A bill on which the carrier notes damaged or missing goods or packaging. It is a discrepancy under a letter of credit.

Clean bill of lading
TR: Temiz konşimento

A bill with no clause declaring a defective condition of the goods or packaging. Banks require clean bills under letters of credit.

CMR
CMR consignment note · TR: CMR taşıma senedi

The consignment note issued under the CMR Convention for international road carriage. It is not a document of title.

CMR Convention
TR: CMR Konvansiyonu

The convention on carrier liability for international road carriage; the limit is 8.33 SDR per kilogram of gross weight.

Cold chain
TR: Soğuk zincir

Keeping a temperature-sensitive product within a set range without interruption from production to consumption.

Combined D&D
TR: Birleşik demuraj ve detention

Days inside and outside the terminal are added together and deducted from a single free time.

Combined transport
TR: Kombine taşıma

Intermodal transport where most of the journey is by rail, inland waterway or sea, with short road legs at either end.

Commercial invoice
TR: Ticari fatura

The seller's invoice to the buyer showing description, quantity, unit and total price and delivery term; also the basis of the customs value.

Confirmed letter of credit
TR: Teyitli akreditif

A credit to which a bank in the seller's country adds its own undertaking to pay; requested when the issuing bank or country is seen as risky.

Consignee
TR: Alıcı (gönderilen)

The person or company named on the transport document as the party to whom the cargo is to be delivered. In L/C transactions this is often made out to the order of a bank.

Consolidator
TR: Konsolidatör

A company that combines small shipments from different shippers in the same container or vehicle to offer groupage (LCL/LTL) services.

CPT
Carriage Paid To · TR: Taşıma ödenmiş olarak

The rule under which the seller pays for carriage to the named destination, while risk passes when the goods are handed to the first carrier.

Cross-docking
TR: Çapraz sevkiyat (cross-dock)

A warehouse practice where inbound cargo is sorted and moved to outbound vehicles quickly, without storage.

CSC
Convention for Safe Containers plate · TR: CSC güvenlik onay plakası

The plate showing the container is approved under the Convention for Safe Containers, with its maximum gross mass and stacking values.

CTU Code
IMO/ILO/UNECE Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units · TR: Yük taşıma birimlerinin yüklenmesine ilişkin uygulama kuralları

The joint IMO, ILO and UNECE guidance on safely packing and securing containers, trailers and wagons.

Curtainsider
TR: Tenteli treyler

The standard international road trailer with tarpaulin sides, loadable from the side, rear and top.

Customs broker
TR: Gümrük müşaviri

A licensed professional who prepares customs declarations and handles customs formalities on behalf of the declarant.

Customs declaration
TR: Gümrük beyannamesi

The document telling customs which procedure the goods are to be placed under, with the required details; filed electronically in Türkiye.

Customs procedure
TR: Gümrük rejimi

The set of customs formalities applied to goods. Turkish customs law defines eight: release for free circulation, transit, customs warehousing, inward processing, processing under customs control, temporary admission, outward processing and export.

Customs Union
TR: Gümrük Birliği

The arrangement between Türkiye and the EU in force since 1996, removing duties on industrial goods and adopting the common external tariff. Most agricultural products are outside it.

Customs value
TR: Gümrük kıymeti

The value on which duties are calculated, based mainly on the transaction value (price paid); for imports into Türkiye, freight and insurance to the point of entry are added.

Customs warehousing
TR: Gümrük antrepo rejimi

An economic procedure allowing imported goods to be stored in approved warehouses without paying duties.

Cut-off
TR: Kesim zamanı

The deadline for delivering the container to the terminal (CY cut-off), submitting documents (SI cut-off) or declaring the VGM. Missing it can roll the box to a later vessel.

CY
Container Yard · TR: Konteyner sahası

The area at a port or terminal where full and empty containers are stacked. "CY/CY" terms mean FCL carriage from yard to yard.

D

D/A
Documents against acceptance · TR: Kabul kredili ödeme

The buyer receives the documents by accepting a time draft and pays at maturity.

D/O
Delivery order · TR: Ordino

An instruction from the carrier or its agent to the terminal or warehouse to release the cargo to a named party. In Türkiye importers obtain it to collect the cargo.

D/P
Documents against payment · TR: Vesaik mukabili ödeme

Documents representing the goods are sent through banks and released to the buyer against payment; the banks give no guarantee of payment.

Dangerous goods class
TR: Tehlike sınıfı

The 9 classes dangerous goods are divided into by main hazard: explosives, gases, flammable liquids, flammable solids, oxidizers, toxic and infectious substances, radioactive material, corrosives and miscellaneous.

DAP
Delivered at Place · TR: Belirlenen yerde teslim

The rule under which the seller brings the goods to the named destination, on the vehicle and ready for unloading. Import clearance is for the buyer.

DC / GP
Dry Container / General Purpose · TR: Standart kuru yük konteyneri

The most common container: closed, unventilated, for general dry cargo, in 20' and 40' lengths.

DDP
Delivered Duty Paid · TR: Gümrük vergileri ödenmiş olarak teslim

The most demanding rule for the seller, who brings the goods to the named place with import clearance and duties included.

Demurrage
TR: Demuraj

A daily charge paid to the carrier when a container stays inside the port or terminal beyond free time.

Despatch
TR: Dispeç

The amount the shipowner pays the charterer when loading or discharge finishes before laytime expires.

Detention
TR: Detention (konteyner gecikme bedeli)

A daily charge paid to the carrier when a container taken outside the terminal is not returned empty within free time.

DGD
Dangerous Goods Declaration · TR: Tehlikeli madde beyanı

The shipper's declaration that dangerous goods are correctly classified, packed and labelled. An incomplete or false declaration risks accidents and heavy penalties.

Discrepancy
TR: Rezerv (belge uyumsuzluğu)

Presented documents not matching the terms of the credit or each other. The bank may then refuse payment.

Documentation fee
TR: Belge (konşimento) ücreti

A flat fee for issuing the bill of lading or other transport documents.

DPU
Delivered at Place Unloaded · TR: Belirlenen yerde boşaltılmış olarak teslim

The rule under which the seller brings the goods to the named place and unloads them. It replaced DAT in the 2020 edition.

DSU
Delay in Start-Up · TR: Açılış gecikmesi teminatı

Cover added to a cargo policy for the loss caused when transit damage delays the start of a project.

Dunnage
TR: Dolgu ve takoz malzemesi

Material such as timber, foam or airbags that fills gaps between cargo and protects it.

Dwell time
TR: Bekleme süresi

How long a container stays at the terminal or a given point; longer dwell raises demurrage and storage costs.

E

EBS
Emergency Bunker Surcharge · TR: Acil yakıt ek ücreti

A short-term surcharge applied when fuel prices rise suddenly.

Empty container depot

TR: Boş konteyner deposu

The yard where the line keeps empty containers; exporters collect empties there and importers return them after unloading.

ETA

Estimated Time of Arrival · TR: Tahmini varış zamanı

The date and time the vessel, aircraft or vehicle is expected to arrive.

ETB

Estimated Time of Berthing · TR: Tahmini yanaşma zamanı

The expected time the vessel comes alongside the berth. With port congestion the gap between ETA and ETB grows.

ETD

Estimated Time of Departure · TR: Tahmini kalkış zamanı

The planned date and time of departure. In shipping it is often used interchangeably with ETS (estimated time of sailing).

ETS

EU Emissions Trading System surcharge · TR: AB emisyon ticaret sistemi ek ücreti

A surcharge lines apply on voyages to and from EU ports since the EU Emissions Trading System was extended to shipping.

EUR.1

EUR.1 movement certificate · TR: EUR.1 dolaşım belgesi

A certificate proving preferential origin under free trade agreements, allowing reduced customs duty.

Euro pallet (EUR/EPAL)

TR: Euro palet

The standard 1.20 × 0.80 m pallet; the basic loading unit of European road freight.

Export credit insurance

TR: İhracat kredi sigortası

Insurance protecting the exporter against the buyer failing to pay on credit sales.

Export procedure

TR: İhracat rejimi

The procedure under which goods in free circulation leave Türkiye's customs territory.

EXW

Ex Works · TR: İşyerinde teslim

The rule under which the seller makes the goods available, not loaded, at its own premises. Loading, export clearance and everything after are for the buyer.

F

Factoring

TR: Faktoring

The exporter selling its receivables to a finance company to get cash early, possibly transferring collection risk too.

FAS

Free Alongside Ship · TR: Gemi doğrultusunda masrafsız

A sea rule under which the seller places the goods alongside the vessel named by the buyer at the port of shipment. Mainly used for bulk and project cargo.

FBL

FIATA Multimodal Transport Bill of Lading · TR: FIATA çok modlu taşıma konşimentosu

FIATA's standard form of negotiable bill issued by a forwarder for multimodal transport.

FCA

Free Carrier · TR: Taşıyıcıya masrafsız

The rule under which the seller clears the goods for export and delivers them to the carrier named by the buyer at the named place. Recommended instead of FOB for containers.

Feeder vessel

TR: Besleyici gemi (feeder)

A smaller vessel carrying containers between minor ports and main transshipment hubs.

FEU

Forty-foot Equivalent Unit · TR: Kırk fit eşdeğer birim

The forty-foot container unit, equal to 2 TEU.

Flexitank

TR: Fleksitank

A single-use flexible bladder fitted inside a 20' container for non-hazardous bulk liquids such as oils or wine.

FOB

Free on Board · TR: Gemide masrafsız teslim

A sea rule under which the seller loads the goods on board the vessel named by the buyer at the port of shipment. Risk passes once the goods are on board.

FR

Flat Rack · TR: Platform konteyner

A platform without side walls or roof, with end walls that may fold, for heavy out-of-gauge cargo.

Free time

TR: Serbest süre

The number of days the carrier lets you use the container free of charge; after it, demurrage and detention start.

Freight
TR: Navlun

The charge for carriage. In shipping it means the main transport charge and, more broadly, the cargo itself.

Freight forwarder
TR: Taşıma işleri organizatörü (TİO)

A company that plans transport end to end on behalf of its customer, selects carriers and coordinates documents and customs. If it issues its own bill of lading it may also take on carrier liability.

Freight prepaid / collect
TR: Navlun peşin / varışta ödemeli

Shows whether freight is paid at origin by the shipper (prepaid) or at destination by the consignee (collect); it should match the Incoterms rule.

FTL
Full Truck Load · TR: Komple araç yükü

Road transport in which the whole vehicle is used for a single shipper.

G

Gate in / Gate out
TR: Terminale giriş / Terminalden çıkış

The records of a container passing in and out of the terminal gate. Demurrage and detention clocks run on these records.

General average
TR: Müşterek avarya

The sharing, by ship and all cargo owners in proportion to their values, of sacrifices and expenses deliberately made to save the venture from a common danger. Uninsured cargo owners must post security.

Genset
TR: Jeneratör seti

A diesel generator powering a reefer container on road or rail where no mains power is available.

GRI
General Rate Increase · TR: Genel navlun artışı

A general increase a line announces in advance and applies to all rates on a trade lane.

Groupage
TR: Grupaj

Small shipments collected by a consolidator and moved in one vehicle or container; similar to LTL by road and LCL by sea.

GTİP
Customs tariff statistical position · TR: Gümrük Tarife İstatistik Pozisyonu

The 12-digit code of goods in Türkiye's customs tariff: digits 1–6 are the Harmonized System, 7–8 the EU Combined Nomenclature, 9–10 national tax positions and 11–12 statistical codes.

H

Hague-Visby Rules
TR: Lahey-Visby Kuralları

International rules on carrier liability for sea carriage under bills of lading; the limit is 666.67 SDR per package or 2 SDR per kilogram, whichever is higher.

HBL
House Bill of Lading · TR: Ara konşimento (forwarder konşimentosu)

The bill of lading a forwarder or NVOCC issues to its own customer. The shipping line's bill for the same cargo is the MBL.

HC / HQ
High Cube · TR: Yüksek konteyner

A container about 30 cm taller than standard (9'6" external height), for light, bulky cargo.

Heavy-lift
TR: Ağır yük

A single piece heavy enough to need special cranes and a lifting plan; may move on heavy-lift vessels with their own powerful cranes.

HS
Harmonized System · TR: Armonize Sistem

The World Customs Organization's product classification. Its 6-digit code is common worldwide and underpins all national tariff codes.

I

IATA DGR
IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations · TR: IATA Tehlikeli Maddeler Yönetmeliği

The rules airlines apply to dangerous goods by air, based on the ICAO Technical Instructions.

ICC
International Chamber of Commerce · TR: Milletlerarası Ticaret Odası

The international business organisation that publishes the Incoterms® rules and the UCP 600 rules for documentary credits.

ICC (A) / (B) / (C)

Institute Cargo Clauses · TR: Enstitü Kargo Klozları

The standard cover terms of cargo insurance. (A) covers all risks apart from exclusions, (C) only listed major perils, and (B) sits in between.

ICD

Inland Container Depot · TR: İç konteyner terminali

An inland container terminal linked by road or rail, where customs formalities can also be carried out.

IMDG Code

International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code · TR: Uluslararası Denizcilik Tehlikeli Yükler Kodu

The IMO code setting classification, packing, labelling, documentation and segregation rules for carrying dangerous goods by sea.

IMO

International Maritime Organization · TR: Uluslararası Denizcilik Örgütü

The UN agency setting maritime safety and environmental rules; SOLAS, MARPOL and the IMDG Code sit under it.

Incoterms®

International Commercial Terms · TR: Uluslararası teslim kuralları

The 11 standard delivery rules published by the ICC that set where risk, cost, insurance and customs formalities pass from seller to buyer. The current edition is Incoterms® 2020.

Insured value

TR: Sigorta bedeli

The amount the cargo is insured for. Under CIF and CIP it must be at least 110% of the invoice value.

Intermodal transport

TR: İntermodal taşıma

Moving cargo by several modes while it stays in the same loading unit (container, trailer), without handling the goods themselves.

Inward processing

TR: Dahilde işleme rejimi

The procedure allowing imported inputs used to make export products to be brought in duty-free or against security.

ISPS

International Ship and Port Facility Security Code · TR: Uluslararası Gemi ve Liman Tesisi Güvenlik Kodu

IMO rules on ship and port security under SOLAS. Ports may pass the related costs on as an ISPS surcharge.

Issuing bank

TR: Amir banka

The bank that opens the credit on the buyer's instructions.

J

Jumbo (truck and drawbar trailer)

TR: Jumbo (kamyon + römork)

A two-compartment combination of a motor truck body and a drawbar trailer; each compartment is about 7.7–8.0 m, ≈ 15.4–16.0 m of load length in total. In the EU the whole combination may be at most 18.75 m long.

K

KN / CN

Combined Nomenclature · TR: Kombine Nomenklatür

The EU's 8-digit tariff nomenclature, adding 2 digits to the HS 6. Under the Customs Union Türkiye uses it for GTİP digits 7–8.

L

L/C

Letter of credit (documentary credit) · TR: Akreditif

An undertaking by the buyer's bank to pay the seller when documents complying with the terms of the credit are presented.

Label / placard

TR: Etiket / levha

Diamond-shaped hazard signs; smaller ones go on packages (labels), larger ones on containers and vehicles (placards).

Lashing and securing

TR: Sabitleme (bağlama)

Tying down cargo inside a container or vehicle with straps, chocks, airbags and similar to stop it shifting or tipping.

Last mile

TR: Son kilometre teslimatı

The final delivery leg from the distribution centre to the end recipient's door.

Laytime

TR: Staliya

The time allowed to the charterer under a charter party for loading or discharge. Exceeding it triggers vessel demurrage; finishing early may earn despatch.

LDM

Loading metre · TR: Yükleme metresi

The measure of trailer floor space used: (length × width) ÷ 2.4. A standard 13.6 m trailer is 13.6 LDM.

Liner service
TR: Düzenli hat taşımacılığı

A shipping service running scheduled sailings between set ports; container shipping works on this model.

LOI
Letter of indemnity · TR: Tazmin taahhütnamesi

An undertaking to hold the carrier harmless, for example when delivery is requested without an original bill; often backed by a bank guarantee.

Lost slot
TR: Kayıp slot

The neighbouring or upper container positions on a ship made unusable by out-of-gauge cargo; charged on top of the freight.

Lowbed (low loader)
TR: Lowbed

A low-deck trailer for tall, heavy cargo such as construction machinery.

LQ
Limited quantity · TR: Sınırlı miktar

A provision allowing dangerous goods in small inner packagings to be carried under lighter rules; marking is still required.

LSS
Low Sulphur Surcharge · TR: Düşük kükürtlü yakıt ek ücreti

A surcharge reflecting the cost of the more expensive fuel used to meet the sulphur limits under MARPOL.

LTL
Less than Truck Load · TR: Parsiyel karayolu yükü

Road transport combining several shippers' cargo in one vehicle, charged by floor space (LDM) or weight.

M

Manifest
TR: Manifesto

The list of all cargo on a vessel, aircraft or vehicle, submitted to customs before or on arrival.

Marine pollutant
TR: Deniz kirletici

A substance harmful to the marine environment that needs special marking under the IMDG Code.

MARPOL
International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships · TR: Gemilerden Kaynaklanan Kirliliğin Önlenmesi Uluslararası Sözleşmesi

The IMO convention regulating marine and air pollution from ships. Fuel sulphur limits come from it and lie behind low-sulphur surcharges.

MBL
Master Bill of Lading · TR: Ana konşimento

The bill of lading issued by the shipping line to the party that delivered the cargo to it, usually a forwarder or NVOCC.

Mega trailer
TR: Mega treyler

A trailer with a lowered chassis offering about 3 m internal height.

Middle Corridor (TITR)
TR: Orta Koridor

The rail and ferry route from China through Kazakhstan, the Caspian Sea, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Türkiye to Europe.

Montreal Convention
TR: Montreal Konvansiyonu

The convention on carrier liability for international air carriage. Following ICAO's 2024 review, the cargo limit has been 26 SDR per kilogram since 28 December 2024.

Mother vessel
TR: Ana gemi

A large container ship operating on the deep-sea main line.

Multimodal transport
TR: Çok modlu taşıma

Carriage by at least two modes under a single contract and a single responsible party.

N

Named place
TR: Belirlenen yer

The place written after an Incoterms rule where delivery or arrival takes place. The more precise it is, the lower the risk of a dispute.

NCTS
New Computerised Transit System · TR: Yeni Bilgisayarlı Transit Sistemi

The electronic system for transit declarations in countries party to the Common Transit Convention, which Türkiye has joined.

Notify party
TR: İhbar tarafı

The party on the bill of lading whom the carrier informs when the cargo arrives. Usually the buyer or its customs broker; it need not have any right to the goods.

NVOCC
Non-Vessel Operating Common Carrier · TR: Gemi işletmeyen taşıyıcı

A carrier that operates no vessels but issues its own bill of lading (HBL) and takes carrier liability towards its customer, contracting with the shipping line in its own name.

O

OBL
Original Bill of Lading · TR: Orijinal konşimento

The original bill of lading, usually issued as a full set of three. Under an order bill, the cargo is released at destination against surrender of one original.

OOG
Out of Gauge · TR: Gabari dışı yük

Cargo exceeding the standard dimensions of a container or vehicle; moved on flat racks or open tops at extra freight.

Open account
TR: Mal mukabili ödeme (açık hesap)

Goods and documents go straight to the buyer, who pays at maturity; the riskiest method for the exporter.

OT
Open Top · TR: Üstü açık konteyner

A container with no fixed roof, covered by a tarpaulin, for cargo loaded by crane or too tall for a closed box.

Outward processing
TR: Hariçte işleme rejimi

Temporarily exporting goods in free circulation for processing or repair, then re-importing them with duty relief.

P

Packing list
TR: Çeki listesi

A list showing the contents, dimensions and gross and net weight of each package or pallet.

Payload
TR: Azami yük

The maximum cargo weight a container can carry: maximum gross mass minus tare.

Per diem
TR: Günlük ücret

A charge per day; in some markets it is used instead of detention.

Perishable cargo
TR: Bozulabilir yük

Temperature- and time-sensitive cargo such as food, flowers and medicines; it needs a cold chain.

PG
Packing group · TR: Ambalaj grubu

The group showing degree of danger: I high, II medium, III low. Packaging strength is chosen accordingly.

POD
Port of Discharge · TR: Boşaltma limanı

The port where the cargo is discharged from the vessel. In other contexts POD also means proof of delivery.

POL
Port of Loading · TR: Yükleme limanı

The port where the cargo is loaded on the main vessel.

POR / FPD
Place of Receipt / Final Place of Delivery · TR: Teslim alma yeri / Son teslim yeri

The inland point where the carrier takes over the cargo before the port, and the final point after it; shown on the bill for door-to-door moves.

Processing under customs control
TR: Gümrük kontrolü altında işleme

The procedure allowing imported goods to be processed under customs control into products subject to lower duty.

Project cargo
TR: Proje kargosu

The equipment for an investment such as a power plant or factory, often in large, heavy pieces, shipped to a fixed schedule.

PSS
Peak Season Surcharge · TR: Yoğun sezon ek ücreti

A temporary surcharge lines apply in periods of high demand.

PTI
Pre-Trip Inspection · TR: Sefer öncesi kontrol

The technical check of a reefer container before loading to confirm the refrigeration unit works.

R

Received for shipment bill of lading

TR: Yüklenmek üzere teslim alındı konşimentosu

A bill showing that the carrier has received the cargo but it has not yet been loaded. An on-board notation can be added later.

Release for free circulation

TR: Serbest dolaşıma giriş

The procedure under which imported goods, once duties are paid and trade measures applied, may be used freely in Türkiye; "import" in everyday speech.

RF / RH

Reefer container · TR: Soğutmalı konteyner

An insulated container with its own refrigeration unit that holds a set temperature. The unit maintains temperature; it is not designed to cool the cargo down.

RID

Regulations concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail · TR: Tehlikeli malların demiryoluyla taşınması kuralları

The rules for carrying dangerous goods by international rail (an appendix to COTIF).

Ro-Ro

Roll-on/Roll-off · TR: Ro-Ro

Transport in which vehicles and trailers drive on and off the ship; common in Türkiye–Europe road freight.

RoLa

Rolling road · TR: Yuvarlanan yol (refakatli demiryolu)

Accompanied combined transport in which the tractor, trailer and driver travel together by train.

Rollover

TR: Sonraki gemiye kaydırma

A container planned for one vessel being left for a later one because of lack of space, a missed cut-off or a cancellation.

Route survey

TR: Güzergâh etüdü

An on-site check of bridges, underpasses, power lines, bends and ground capacity along the route of a large or heavy load.

S

SDR

Special Drawing Right · TR: Özel Çekme Hakkı

The IMF's unit of account based on a basket of currencies. Carrier liability limits in transport conventions are stated in SDR; its value changes daily.

SDS (MSDS)

Safety Data Sheet · TR: Güvenlik bilgi formu

A document setting out a chemical's hazards, safe handling and emergency measures in 16 sections; transport information is in section 14.

Seal

TR: Mühür

A numbered single-use security seal fitted to the container door. Its number is shown on the bill of lading and the declaration.

Segregation

TR: Ayrıştırma

The rules keeping substances that may react dangerously apart, by distance or compartment, in a container or on a vessel.

Set point

TR: Ayar sıcaklığı

The temperature the reefer unit is set to maintain. The shipper states it at booking; a wrong entry can spoil the cargo.

Shipowner / shipping line

TR: Armatör

The company that operates the vessel and actually performs the sea carriage. In container shipping the liner companies running scheduled services are also called this.

Shipped on board bill of lading

TR: Gemiye yüklendi kayıtlı konşimento

A bill showing that the goods have been loaded on a named vessel, with the date. Most letters of credit require it.

Shipper

TR: Gönderici (yükleten)

The party that hands the cargo to the carrier and appears as shipper on the transport document. Usually the seller, but not always.

Shipping agent

TR: Acente (armatör acentesi)

A company that represents the shipping line in a country or port, handling bookings, bills of lading, delivery orders and port formalities.

SI

Shipping instructions · TR: Yükleme talimatı

The details the shipper gives the carrier for issuing the bill of lading: parties, cargo description, weight, container and seal numbers. Due by a set cut-off.

SLAC

Shipper's Load and Count · TR: Gönderici tarafından yüklendi ve sayıldı

A clause on FCL bills: the shipper loaded and counted the container, so the carrier does not accept responsibility for the quantity inside.

Small panel van

TR: Minivan / küçük panelvan

A small commercial van of the Doblo or Caddy class; the VW Caddy Cargo, for example, offers ≈ 3.1–3.7 m³, ≈ 0.7–0.8 t payload and up to 2 Euro pallets.

SOC / COC

Shipper Owned Container / Carrier Owned Container · TR: Göndericiye ait / taşıyıcıya ait konteyner

The split by container owner. With COC the box belongs to the line and detention applies; with SOC it belongs to the shipper.

SOLAS

International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea · TR: Denizde Can Güvenliği Uluslararası Sözleşmesi

The main IMO convention on ship safety. The requirement to declare a container's verified gross mass (VGM) comes from it.

Spot rate / contract rate

TR: Anlık navlun / sözleşmeli navlun

A spot rate is today's market price for one shipment; a contract rate is agreed in advance for a period and volume.

Stack date (receiving window)

TR: Kabul başlangıç tarihi (stack date)

The date from which the terminal accepts export containers for a given vessel. Earlier arrivals may be refused or charged extra.

STC

Said to Contain · TR: İçerdiği beyan edilmiştir

A clause stating that the cargo description on the bill is based on the shipper's declaration and has not been verified by the carrier.

Stevedore

TR: Yükleme-boşaltma şirketi

The port company or worker that loads cargo onto and discharges it from vessels.

Storage

TR: Ardiye

A storage charge paid to the terminal operator while cargo or a container waits at the terminal.

Stowage plan

TR: İstif planı

The plan showing where each container goes on the vessel, taking account of weight, dangerous goods and discharge port sequence.

Straight bill of lading

TR: Nama yazılı konşimento

A bill naming a specific consignee, which cannot be transferred by endorsement. Whether an original is needed for delivery depends on the country and the carrier's terms.

Swap body

TR: Swap body (değiştirilebilir kasa)

A container-like loading unit for road and rail that can stand on its own legs. Per ICAM: 2.50 m wide, 2.62 m high; 7.15, 12.50 or 13.60 m long.

SWB

Sea waybill · TR: Deniz yolu taşıma senedi

A transport document that is not a document of title; the cargo is delivered to the named consignee on identification, without any original. Preferred between trusted parties and within groups.

T

Tank container (ISO tank)

TR: Tank konteyner

A stainless steel tank in an ISO frame, used for bulk liquids, foodstuffs and chemicals.

Tare

TR: Dara

The weight of the empty container (or packaging).

Telex release

TR: Teleks serbest bırakma

The original bills are surrendered to the carrier at origin and the destination agent is instructed to release the cargo without waiting for an original.

Temporary admission

TR: Geçici ithalat

Bringing in goods to be re-exported unchanged after a set period (exhibition goods, professional equipment) with full or partial duty relief.

Temporary storage

TR: Geçici depolama

Goods presented to customs waiting at an approved temporary storage facility until placed under a customs procedure.

Terminal operator
TR: Terminal işletmecisi

The company that handles and stores containers at a port or inland terminal and collects storage charges.

TEU
Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit · TR: Yirmi fit eşdeğer birim

The container unit: a 20' container is 1 TEU and a 40' is 2 TEU. Ship capacity and port statistics are measured in it.

THC
Terminal Handling Charge · TR: Terminal elleçleme ücreti

The charge for handling the container at the terminal, split into OTHC at origin and DTHC at destination; who pays depends on the Incoterms rule.

Through bill of lading
TR: Doğrudan (aktarmalı) konşimento

A single bill covering a whole shipment that involves several carriers or legs.

TIR Carnet
TR: TIR karnesi

The document under the TIR Convention allowing goods in a sealed road vehicle to transit several countries under a guarantee.

To order bill of lading
TR: Emre yazılı konşimento

A bill with "to order" or "to the order of ..." in the consignee box, transferable by endorsement. Common in letter of credit transactions.

Tramp shipping
TR: Tramp (düzensiz) taşımacılık

Ship operation without a fixed schedule, chartered to wherever cargo is available; common in bulk shipping.

Transfer of risk
TR: Risk devri

The moment the risk of loss of or damage to the goods passes from seller to buyer. The Incoterms rule sets this point; it does not govern transfer of ownership.

Transit procedure
TR: Transit rejimi

The procedure allowing goods to move under customs supervision from one customs office to another, or out of the country, without paying duties.

Transit time
TR: Transit süre

The time cargo takes from origin to destination; as important as the freight rate when comparing quotes.

Transshipment
TR: Aktarma

Moving cargo from one vessel (or vehicle) to another during the journey. It adds transit time and delay risk; letters of credit state whether it is allowed.

U

UCP 600
Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits · TR: Belgeli Akreditifler İçin Tek Tip Kurallar ve Uygulamalar

The ICC rules applied to letters of credit. They give banks a maximum of 5 banking days to examine documents.

ULD
Unit Load Device · TR: Hava kargo yükleme birimi

A pallet or container used to load aircraft, built to fit the aircraft type.

UN number
TR: UN numarası

The four-digit identification number the UN expert committee assigns to dangerous substances (e.g. UN 1203, petrol).

Unaccompanied transport
TR: Refakatsiz (sürücüsüz) taşıma

Only the trailer, container or swap body travels by ship or train; the tractor and driver do not.

Unimodal transport
TR: Tek modlu taşıma

Transport by a single mode, such as road only or sea only.

V

VGM
Verified Gross Mass · TR: Doğrulanmış brüt ağırlık

The container weight that SOLAS requires to be declared before loading: cargo, packaging, pallets, securing material and tare. A container without a VGM is not loaded.

Volumetric weight
TR: Hacimsel ağırlık

Volume converted to weight with a factor specific to the mode. In air cargo (L × W × H cm) ÷ 6,000 is common.

W

W/M
Weight or Measurement · TR: Ağırlık veya hacim

The LCL charging basis: the charge is per tonne or per m³, whichever gives the higher figure (revenue ton).

War risk surcharge

TR: Savaş riski ek ücreti

A surcharge for the extra insurance and routing cost of voyages to or through conflict or high-risk areas.

WCO

World Customs Organization · TR: Dünya Gümrük Örgütü

The international body that maintains the Harmonized System and works to harmonise customs practice.

Y

YYS / AEO

Authorised Economic Operator · TR: Yetkilendirilmiş Yükümlü Statüsü

A status giving firms with approved reliability simpler customs treatment (fewer checks, faster processing).

Frequently asked questions

What are the most common abbreviations in logistics?

The ones you meet daily include B/L (bill of lading), ETA/ETD (estimated arrival/departure), FCL/LCL (full/less than container load), TEU (twenty-foot equivalent unit), VGM (verified gross mass), THC (terminal handling charge) and the three-letter Incoterms codes.

What are the glossary definitions based on?

The definitions are written by the author in plain language; figures and official definitions follow the ICC, the IMO, the Turkish Ministry of Trade and the relevant international conventions. Details and sources are in the guide topic each term links to.

SOURCES

Turkish Ministry of Trade — FAQ on the customs tariff — https://ticaret.gov.tr/gumruk-islemleri/sikca-sorulan-sorular/ticari/tarife
International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) — Incoterms® 2020 and UCP 600
International Maritime Organization (IMO) — SOLAS, MARPOL, IMDG Code

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