

Common air freight terms used in quotations, routing, cargo handling, airport recovery, delivery, and customer communication.

## Air Freight Terms

<b>Air Waybill (AWB)</b>	The main transport document for air cargo. It identifies the shipper, consignee, flight routing, pieces, weight, and handling instructions.
<b>Master Air Waybill (MAWB)</b>	The airline-issued air waybill covering the total consolidated shipment from the forwarder to destination.
<b>House Air Waybill (HAWB)</b>	A forwarder-issued air waybill for an individual shipper within a consolidation.
<b>Chargeable Weight</b>	The weight used to calculate air freight. It is the greater of actual gross weight or volumetric weight.
<b>Volumetric Weight</b>	Calculated weight based on the space cargo occupies. For air, it is commonly calculated from dimensions using an air conversion factor.
<b>Known Shipper</b>	A shipper recognized under air security procedures, often required for certain passenger-aircraft movements.
<b>Screening</b>	Security inspection of air cargo before tender to an airline or regulated facility.
<b>Cut-Off Time</b>	The latest time cargo and documents must be tendered to meet a planned flight or consolidation.
<b>Direct Flight</b>	A routing from origin airport to destination airport without a scheduled change of aircraft.
<b>Consolidation</b>	Combining multiple shipments into one larger air movement to improve efficiency or rate basis.
<b>Deconsolidation</b>	Breaking a consolidated air shipment into its individual house shipments at destination.
<b>Dimensional Factor</b>	The conversion factor used to determine volumetric weight from cargo dimensions.
<b>Gross Weight</b>	The total physical weight of the cargo including packaging, pallets, and cartons.
<b>ULD</b>	Unit Load Device. An aircraft container or pallet used to load cargo into an aircraft.
<b>Tender</b>	The act of delivering cargo to an airline, warehouse, CFS, or terminal for acceptance.
<b>Airport Terminal Charge</b>	A fee assessed by the air terminal or handling facility for receiving, handling, or releasing cargo.
<b>Fuel Surcharge</b>	A carrier or airline surcharge tied to fuel costs, often shown separately from base air freight.
<b>Security Surcharge</b>	A charge related to security requirements, screening, or compliance for air cargo.
<b>Transshipment</b>	Cargo movement through an intermediate airport before final destination.
<b>POD</b>	Proof of Delivery. Confirmation that the cargo was delivered to the consignee or delivery location.

<b>Pickup Order</b>	Instructions authorizing a trucker or warehouse to collect cargo.
<b>Delivery Order</b>	A release document authorizing cargo delivery from a terminal, warehouse, or carrier.
<b>IATA</b>	International Air Transport Association. A global trade association supporting air transport standards and procedures.
<b>Dangerous Goods</b>	Cargo regulated due to hazard characteristics. Air shipments require special documentation, marking, packaging, and acceptance procedures.
<b>Pre-Alert</b>	Advance shipment notice sent to a destination office or agent with documents and routing details.