1.5. Terms

1.5.1. Air Traffic Terms

A

Accessories
When used in specific commodity rate descriptions, accessories mean any additional objects which are neither essential to the normal use of the main article nor form an integral part of that article, but which nevertheless are intended for use with it.
Actual weight
See Gross weight
Add-on
A term equivalent to proportional, arbitrary or construction rate.
Advance arrangement
Means the shipper must contact the carrier prior to tendering the consignment.
Advanced Charge
See Disbursements
Agent
A person or organization authorized to act for or on behalf of another person or organization.
Airline
See Carrier
Airline-annotated rate
Rate for City-pair to be used for rate/charge calculation when transporting goods with the indicated Airline.
Air Waybill (AWB)
Means the document made out by or on behalf of the shipper which evidences the contract between the shipper and carrier(s) for carriage of goods over routes of the carrier(s) (see Section 6).
Air Waybill, Neutral
A standard AWB without identification of issuing carrier in any form.
Alliance Carriers
Air France, Air New Zealand, Alitalia, American Airlines, America West Airlines, Austrian Airlines, Czech Airlines, Delta Airlines, Finnair, Icelandair, Korean Air, Lan Chile, Lufthansa Cargo, Malaysia Airlines, Royal Jordanian, Scandinavian Airlines System-SAS, SWISS International Airlines and United Airlines.
Alliance Countries
Between USA/US Territories and Austria, Belgium, Chile, Czech Republic, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, French Guiana, French Polynesia, Germany, Greenland, Guadeloupe, Iceland, Italy, Jordan, Korea (Rep. of) Malaysia, Martinique, Mayotte, Monaco, Netherlands, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Panama, Peru, Reunion, Scandinavia, Saint Pierre and Miquelon.
Ancillary equipment
Equipment used to build up a palletized load or to convey a unit load device outside an aircraft.
Arbitrary
A term equivalent to proportional, add-on or construction rate.
Assembly, Cargo
See Cargo Assembly

B

Baggage, Unaccompanied
Baggage carried as cargo (see also Rule 3.7.8.).
Billing Participant
An IATA Member or any other entity, being neither a CASS airline nor a Part-Participant, which submits to the Settlement Office AWB data in an electronically readable form in respect of transactions made on its behalf by agents.
Break bulk
Disassembling of consolidated shipment for delivery or reconsignment of a shipment.
Break bulk agent
An agent who breaks consolidated consignments into their individual parts.
Break-even weight
The weight at which it is cheaper to charge the lower rate for the next higher weightbreak multiplied by the minimum weight indicated, than to charge the higher rate for the actual weight of the shipment.
Bulk Unitization Charges
See Rule 3.10.5.

C

Cabotage
Applying to traffic originating at a point in one country and destined to another point within the territory of the same country.
Cargo
(Also know as Goods), this means anything carried or to be carried in an aircraft *except*
a. mail or other property carried under the terms of an international postal convention
b. baggage carried under a passenger ticket and baggage check Unaccompanied baggage moving under an AWB *is* cargo.

Cargo Assembly
The separate reception of parcels or packages and the holding of them for later dispatch as one consignment.
Cargo Aircraft
Any aircraft, other than a passenger aircraft, which is carrying goods or property.
Cargo Charges Correction Advice (CCA)
A document used for the notification of changes to charges and/or method of payment inserted on an AWB.
Cargo Disassembly
The separation of one or more of the component parts of a consignment for any purpose other than that of presenting such part or parts to customs authorities at their specific request.
Cargo, General
See General cargo
Cargo IMP - Cargo Interchange Message Procedures
ATA/IATA Cargo Interchange Message Procedures, developed by the Member Airlines of the Air Transport Association of America and the International Air Transport Association.
Cargo, Transfer
Cargo arriving at a point by one flight and continuing therefrom by another flight of the same or a connecting carrier.
Cargo, Transit
Cargo arriving at a point and departing therefrom by the same through flight.
Carriage
(Also known as Transportation), this means the carriage of cargo by air, whether gratuitously or for reward.
Carriage, Domestic
Carriage in which according to the contract of carriage, the place of departure and the place of destination are situated within one country.
Carriage, Interline
See Interline Carriage
Carriage, International
(Except for the purpose of the Warsaw Convention). Carriage in which, according to the contract of carriage, the place of departure and any place of landing are situated in more than one State. As used in this definition the term “STATE” includes all territory subject to the sovereignty, suzerainty, mandate, authority, or trusteeship thereof.
Carrier
Includes the air carrier issuing the AWB and all other air carriers that carry or undertake to carry the cargo under the AWB or to perform any other services related to such air carriage.
Carrier, Connecting
See Connecting Carrier
Carrier, Delivering
See Delivering Carrier
Carrier, First
See First carrier
Carrier flag
See Airline-annotated rate
Carrier, Issuing
See Issuing Carrier
Carrier, Last
See Last carrier
Carrier, Participating
See Participating carrier
Carrier, Receiving
See Receiving Carrier
Carrier, Transferring
See Transferring carrier
Carrier, Valuable
See Valuable cargo
Cartage
The charge paid for picking up or delivering goods by surface transportation.
Cash on Delivery (C.O.D.)
This means that a carrier should collect payment from the consignee and remit the amount to the shipper *but* see also section 8 (Carriers' Special Regulations).
CASS, Cargo Accounts Settlement System
A system of accounting and settling accounts between CASS Airlines on the one hand and their appointed IATA Cargo Agents on the other hand.
CASS Airline
An airline participating in the CASS.
Certificate of Origin
A document issued to certify the origin of goods.
Charge
An amount to be paid for carriage of goods based on the applicable rate for such carriage, or an amount to be paid for a special or incidental service in connection with the carriage of goods.
Chargeable Weight
See Rule 3.9.3.

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1.5. Terms

Charges Collect
The charges entered on the AWB for collection from the consignee.
Charges, Forward
See Charges Collect
Charges, Forwarding
Charges paid or to be paid for preliminary surface or air transportation to the Airport of departure by a surface or air transportation agency, not a carrier under the AWB.
Charge, Joint
See Joint Charge
Charge, Local
See On-line Charge
Charge, Minimum
See Minimum Charge
Charge, Normal
See Normal Charge
Charge, On-line
See On-line Charge
Charges Prepaid
The charges entered on the AWB for payment by the shipper.
Charge, Published
See Published Charge
Charge, Quantity
See Quantity Charge
Charge, Reforwarding
See Reforwarding Charge
Charge, Through
See Through Charge
Charge, Valuation
See Valuation Charge
Charge, Volume
See Volume Charge
Charge, Weight
See Weight Charge
Charter contract
A special agreement whereby carrier, for an agreed operation, places at a shipper's disposition the entire capacity of an aircraft.
Charterer
The person who has signed a charter contract with carrier.
Charter party
See Charter contract
City-pair
An origin city and a destination city used in a rate publication.
City terminal service
The surface carriage of consignments between carrier's city handling station and the airport of departure or destination, as the case may be.
Class Rate
A rate applicable to a specifically designated class of goods.
C.O.D.
See Cash on Delivery (C.O.D.)
Combination
The establishment of a rate or charge by addition of sectional rates or charges.
Commodity Rate
See Specific Commodity Rate (SCR)
Conditions of Carriage
The terms and conditions established by a carrier in respect to its carriage.
Conditions of contract
The terms and conditions shown on the AWB.
Connecting Carrier
A carrier to whose services the cargo is to be transferred for onward connecting transportation.
Consignee
The person whose name appears on the AWB as the party to whom the goods are to be delivered by the carrier.
Consignment
(Also known as shipment) means one or more pieces of goods accepted by the carrier from one shipper at one time and at one address, receipted for in one lot and moving on one AWB to one consignee at one destination address.
Consignment, Consolidated
A consignment of multi-packages which has been originated by more than one person each of whom has made an agreement for carriage by air with another person other than a scheduled air carrier. Conditions pertaining thereto, applied to that agreement, may or may not be the same as the conditions pertaining thereto, applied by the scheduled air carrier for the same carriage.
Consignment, Mixed
A consignment of different commodities, articles or goods, whether packed or tied together or contained in separate packages and for which different rating applies.
Consignor
See Shipper
Consolidation
See Consignment, Consolidated
Consolidator
A person or organization performing a consolidation.
Constructed Rate
Calculated rate for a not defined city-pair by using procedure as described in section 5.1. of the Rates books.
Construction
The establishment of a cargo rate through the use of add-ons, which are published in section 5.2. of the Rates books. (grey pages)
Construction Rate
A non-saleable add-on amount for Tariff publication purposes, to be used only in combination with other rates for carriage from, to or through a specified point.
Container
See Unit Load Device (ULD)
Customs Broker
An agent specialized in inbound customs clearance.
Customs Clearance Agent
Means a Customs Broker or other agent of the consignee designated to perform customs clearance services for the consignee.

D

Dangerous Goods
Dangerous goods are articles or substances which are capable of posing a risk to health, safety, property or the environment and which are shown in the list of IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations or which are classified according to IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations.
Days
Full calendar days, including Sundays and legal holidays.
Declared value for carriage
The value of goods declared to the carrier by the shipper for the purpose of determining charges or of establishing the limit of the carrier's liability for loss, damage or delay. It is also the basis for possible applicable valuation charges (see Rule 3.2.).
Delivering Carrier
The carrier who delivers the consignment to the consignee or his agent.
Delivery order
The authorization of the entitled party to deliver the shipment to a party other than the consignee shown in the AWB.
Delivery service
The carriage of inbound consignments from the airport of destination to the address of the consignee or that of his designated agent or to the custody of the appropriate government agency when required.
Demurrage
A variable fee charged to carriers and/or customers for the use of carrier owned ULDs beyond the free time allotment.
Destination
The ultimate stopping place according to the Contract of Carriage.
Diplomatic Bag
A sealed envelope or bag moving between a government and its accredited representative abroad, supported by a ‘Bordereau’ which has been officially endorsed to indicate that the envelope or bag contains only official correspondence, for which special security measures are required.
Disassembly, Cargo
See Cargo Disassembly
Disbursements
A charge paid by a carrier to an agent or to another carrier, which the delivering carrier then collects from consignee. Such charges are usually for agents' forwarding fees and incidental expenses paid by an agent or other carrier for the account of the shipment.
Domestic Rate
Rate applicable within a country, and in most cases subject to special conditions other than those of IATA.
Dolly
A piece of equipment used to move containers or pallets around the airport with the aid of a tractor.

E

Effective date
Date that a rate/charge is valid between a City-pair.
Embargo
Means the refusal by a carrier, for a limited period, to accept for transportation over any route or segment thereof, and to or from any area, or point, of connecting carrier, any commodity, type or class of cargo duly tendered.
Expiry date
Date that a rate/charge ceases to be valid between a City-pair.

F

First carrier
The carrier who actually performs the first part of the air transportation.

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Flagged Rate (Carrier Specific Rate)
A cargo rate and/or charge identified by a carrier's designator and, unless otherwise stated, applicable for online transportation on the named carrier.
Flight number
The designation of a flight.
Freight Collect
See Charges Collect
French Gold Francs
Francs consisting of 65 U21/D32 milligrams of gold with a fineness of nine hundred thousandths.

G

GCR
See General Cargo Rate (GCR)
General cargo
Any consignment other than a consignment containing valuable cargo as defined herein and charged for transportation at general cargo rates.
General Cargo Rate (GCR)
The rate for the carriage of cargo other than a class rate or specific commodity rate, also known as “General Commodity Rate” (GCR).
General Commodity Rate
See General Cargo Rate (GCR)
G.M.T.
Greenwich Mean Time.
Gold Francs
See French Gold Francs
Goods
See Cargo
Government Bill of Lading (GBL)
See Rule 2.2.1.
Gross weight
The weight of the shipment including all packing, blocking, etc. Also including weight of platforms, special bracing, etc., if required.

H

Hague Protocol
Amendment to the Warsaw Convention, signed at The Hague, September 28, 1955.
Hazardous Goods
See Dangerous Goods
House Air Waybill (HAWB)
Means the document which covers each individual shipment of a consolidation. It is issued by the consolidator and contains instructions to the break bulk agent.

I

IATA Cargo Agent
An agent approved by IATA and registered in the IATA Cargo Agency List. This enables the agent, upon authorization of the IATA carrier, to receive shipments, execute air waybills and collect charges.
IATA Member
Indicates an Airline being a member of IATA.
IATA resolution
Description of procedures to be filed with governments.
Industry rate
Rate for City-pair without an Airline annotation.
Insurance certificate
Proof that an insurance contract for a particular shipment has been concluded.
Interim receipt
A receipt given by a carrier pending execution of an AWB.
Interline agreement
A contract between two or more carriers to expedite exchange of traffic between the parties to the agreement.
Interline Carriage
The carriage over the routes of two or more Air Carriers.
Interline Carrier
A carrier with whom another Carrier has an interline agreement.
Issuing Carrier
The carrier whose AWB is issued.

J

Joint Charge
A charge which applies for carriage over the lines of two or more carriers and which is published as a single amount.
Joint Rate
A rate which applies for carriage over the lines of two or more carriers and which is published as a single amount.

L

Last carrier
The participating carrier over whose air routes the last section of carriage under the AWB is undertaken or performed; or for the purposes of determining the responsibility for collecting charges collect and disbursements amounts, the carrier which delivers the consignment to the consignee whether or not that carrier has participated in the carriage.
Legal holidays
Means local, state, provincial or national holiday.
Line number
See Flight number
Local Charge
See On-line Charge

M

Master Air Waybill
Means an Air Waybill covering a consolidated consignment, showing the consolidator as shipper.
Mid Atlantic rates
Apply between the Mid Atlantic Area and points in IATA Area 2.
Minimum Charge
The minimum amount which applies for the transportation of the consignment.
Miscellaneous Charge Order (MCO)
A document issued by a carrier or its agent, in conjunction with a Passenger Ticket and Baggage Check and which may be used only for payment of baggage shipped as cargo.
Mixed Consignment
See Consignment, Mixed

N

N Rate
See Normal General Cargo Rate
Net weight
The weight of the goods, excluding all packing.
Neutral Air Waybill
See Air Waybill, Neutral
Normal Charge
The specified general cargo rate without any quantity discount.
Normal General Cargo Rate
(indicated by a ‘N’ in section 4 of the Rates books). Means the 1 kg. general cargo rate. (see also Rule 3.5.2.)
North Atlantic rates
Apply between the North Atlantic Area and points in IATA Area 2.
North/Central Pacific rates
Apply between points in IATA Area 1 and all points in IATA Area 3, except the South West Pacific.

O

On-line Charge
Equivalent to the term local charge, means a charge which applies for carriage over the lines of a single carrier.
Operative period
Means the period of time commencing from the date of agreement between Carrier and a shipper or consolidator.
Overpack
An enclosure used by a single shipper to contain one or more packages and to form one handling unit for convenience of handling and stowage. Dangerous goods packages contained in the overpack must be properly packed, marked, labelled and in proper condition as required by the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations. (A Unit Load Device is not included in this definition.)
Over Pivot Rate
The rate per kg. to be charged for the Over Pivot Weight.
Over Pivot Weight
The weight in excess of the Pivot Weight.

P

Package (Non-Radioactive Material)
The complete product of the packing operation consisting of the packaging and contents prepared for transport.
Packing
Any container or covering in which the contents of a shipment is packed.
Participating carrier
A carrier participating in a tariff and who therefore applies the rates, charges, routings, and regulations of the tariff. It also means a carrier over whose air routes one or more sections of carriage under the AWB is undertaken or performed.
Parts
For the purpose of applying specific commodity rate descriptions, these are such objects which are essential to the normal use of the main article or are an integral component thereof, provided that this shall not include supplies.

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Perishable cargo
Goods which will deteriorate over a given period of time or if exposed to adverse temperature, humidity or other environmental conditions.
Pick-up service
The carriage of outbound consignments from the point of pick-up to the airport of departure.
Pivot weight
Minimum chargeable ULD weight.
Postal Gold Franc
Same as French Gold Francs.
Produce of the Soil
Cereals, flowers, fruits, grains, herbs, plants, seeds, vegetables.
Proportional Rate
A rate which is used in combination with other rates to establish a through rate.
Prorate
(where used as a noun). A portion of joint revenue obtained by proration.
Proration
Division of joint revenue on an agreed basis between the carriers concerned.
Proration, Mileage
Proration on the basis of the respective local mileages.
Published Charge
A charge, the amount of which is specifically set forth in the carrier's rates tariff.

Q

Quantity Charge
The unit rate which is lower than the normal rate and applies to shipments meeting specific weight requirements.
Quantity discount
A percentage reduction of a rate based on quantity.

R

Rate
The amount charged by the carrier(s) for the carriage of a unit of goods.
Rate, Class
See Class Rate
Rate, Constructed
See Constructed Rate
Rate, Construction
See Construction Rate
Rate, Domestic
See Domestic Rate
Rate, General cargo (GCR)
See General Cargo Rate (GCR)
Rate, Interline
See Joint Rate
Rate, Joint
See Joint Rate
Rate, Local
See On-line Charge
Rate, Normal
See Normal General Cargo Rate
Rate, On-line
See On-line Charge
Rate, Over pivot
See Over Pivot Rate
Rate, Proportional
See Proportional Rate
Rate, Sectional
See Sectional Rate
Rate, Specific commodity (SCR)
See Specific Commodity Rate (SCR)
Rate, Specified
See Specified Rate/Charge
Rate, Through
See Through Rate
Rate, Transborder
See Transborder Rate
Receiving Carrier
The carrier receiving consignment from a carrier, agent or shipper for onward transportation.
Re-delivery
Return of a shipment to the party who originally delivered it to the carrier.
Reforwarding Charge
Charges paid or to be paid for subsequent surface or air transportation from the airport of destination by a surface or air transportation agency, not a carrier under the AWB.
Refund
The repayment to the purchaser of all or a portion of a charge for unused carriage.
Related Charges
A local currency amount in an IATA Resolution which is not a minimum charge, GCR, SCR, ULD charge/rate, add-on; e.g. dangerous goods handling fee, charges collect fee, charges for disbursements, charges for preparation of Air Waybill, charges in relation to value.
Rerouting
The route to be followed as altered from that originally specified in the AWB.
Reservations
Means that Carrier will accept requests from shippers for requested space prior to the scheduled departure of the flight on which such space is requested. Confirmation of the reservation by Carrier shall apply only to the shipper's description of the commodities to be shipped and to the weight or volume of the shipment. Carrier will advise the shipper the time and the date the shipment will be acceptable at its cargo receiving terminal.
Rounding-Off procedures
Description of rounding rates/charges calculations. See Rule 5.7. and section 5.1. of the Rates books.
Route, Direct
The shortest operated route between two points.
Route, Indirect
Any route other than the direct route.
Route, Through
The total route from point of departure to point of destination.
Routing
The route to be followed as originally specified in the AWB.
Rules
The general terms and conditions of carriage.

S

Sale
The issuance or the completion of an AWB or other transportation document.
SCR
See Specific Commodity Rate (SCR)
SDR
See Special Drawing Right (SDR)
Sectional Rate
The rate established by scheduled air carrier(s) for a section of a through route.
Sector Rate
See Sectional Rate
Service, City terminal
See City terminal service
Service, Delivery
See Delivery service
Service, Pick-up
See Pick-up service
Settlement Office
The office which, on behalf of CASS Airlines, issues billings to, and receives remittances from, agents. It then distributes the monies to those airlines.
Shipment
See Consignment
Shipper
Equivalent to the term “Consignor”, means the person whose name appears on the AWB as the party contracting with the carrier(s) for carriage of goods.
Shipper's Letter of Instruction (SLI)
The document containing instructions by shipper or shipper's agent for preparing documents and forwarding.
Shipping documents
Documents other than transportation receipts or transportation contracts, required to enable shipments to be forwarded or received.
South Atlantic rates
Apply between the South Atlantic Area and points in IATA Area 2.
South Pacific rates
Apply between points in IATA Area 1 and points in the S.W. Pacific Area.
Special Drawing Right (SDR)
A reserve asset used as a unit of account, as defined by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
Specific Commodity Rate (SCR)
A rate applicable to carriage of specifically designated commodities.
Specified Rate
A rate defined by IATA Conference Resolution or Airline for a City-pair.
Supplies
For the purpose of applying specific commodity rates supplies are: materials used up with the main article, but other than parts.
Surcharge, Value
See Value surcharge

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T

Tariffs
The published rates, charges and related rules.
Through Air Waybill
An Air Waybill covering the entire transportation from departure to destination of shipment.
Through Charge
The total charge from point of departure to point of destination.
Through Rate
The total rate from point of departure to point of destination. It may be a joint rate or a combination of rates.
Through Route
See Route, Through
Trace
To locate a shipment lost or believed lost.
Transatlantic rates
Apply between points in IATA Area 1 and points in IATA Area 2.
Transborder
Refers to transportation between Canada and the U.S.A.
Transborder Rate
Rates applicable between Canada and the USA.
Transfer
Movement of cargo from one carrier to another against a transfer manifest.
Transferring carrier
The participating carrier transferring the consignment to another carrier at a transfer point.
Transhipment
The unloading of cargo from one flight and loading onto another for oncarriage.
Transit
An en route stopping place where cargo remains on board.
Transportation
See Carriage
Transportation documents
Transportation receipts or transportation contracts issued by carriers.

U

ULD
See Unit Load Device (ULD)
Unaccompanied baggage
Baggage carried as cargo (see Rule 3.7.8.)
Unitization
The practice or technique of consolidating many small pieces of freight into a single unit.
Unit Load Device (ULD)
Any type of container or pallet, as defined in Rule 3.10.2. in which a consignment can be transported, whether or not such container is considered as aircraft equipment.
UN number
The four-digit number assigned by the United Nations Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods to identify a substance or a particular group of substances.

V

Valuable cargo
Means a consignment which contains one or more of the articles as described in Rule 3.7.6.
Valuation Charge
A charge for carriage of goods, based on the value declared for the carriage of such goods. See Rule 3.2.
Value for carriage, Declared
See Declared value for carriage
Value surcharge
A surcharge for the carriage of cargo having a value in excess of a specified amount per kilogram.
Volume Charge
A charge for carriage of goods based on their volume.
Volume Weight
See Rule 3.9.4.
Vulnerable cargo
Goods for which no value is declared, but which obviously require security handling; or shipments which are particularly vulnerable to theft or pilferage.

W

Warsaw convention
The Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to International Carriage by Air, signed at Warsaw, 12 October 1929, or that Convention as amended by the Hague Protocol, 1955, whichever may be applicable to carriage.
Weight Charge
The charge for carriage of goods based on their weight.
Weight, Over Pivot
See Over Pivot Weight

Wet cargo
A shipment which contains liquids or which by its nature may produce liquids or give off large amounts of moisture.

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