INTERNATIONAL FREIGHT MANAGEMENT



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Introduction

Moving goods across borders involves more parties, documents, and failure points than any other part of the supply chain. A forwarder books the space, a carrier moves the cargo, a customs broker clears it, and a terminal handles it, while the shipper carries the risk and the cost. When any link slips, demurrage, storage, and lost sales follow. This International Freight Management Training Course gives freight, logistics, and shipping professionals a complete working method for planning and controlling international movement. Participants learn Incoterms 2020, mode selection and costing, documentation and customs, carrier and forwarder management, insurance and claims, and freight performance measurement.

International Freight Management Course Objectives

- Apply Incoterms 2020 rules correctly to cost, risk, and responsibility.
- Select transport modes using cost, transit time, and reliability trade-offs.
- Calculate landed cost and total freight cost per shipment and per unit.
- Prepare and verify shipping documentation for customs and carrier needs.
- Manage freight rates, tendering, and carrier and forwarder contracts.
- Apply customs procedures: classification, valuation, and duty relief.
- Control demurrage, detention, and storage exposure.
- Arrange cargo insurance, handle claims, and manage liability limits.
- Apply dangerous goods, temperature-controlled, and out-of-gauge requirements.
- Measure freight performance with transit time, cost per unit, and damage rate.

Course Methodology

- Facilitated sessions built on real freight invoices, bills of lading, and contracts.
- Case workshops on port congestion, cargo damage, and detention disputes.
- Freight costing and mode comparison exercises using live rate data.

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- Documentation and customs clearance practice labs.
- Group exercise on a freight management improvement plan with targets.

Who Should Take This Course

- Freight and shipping managers.
- Logistics and distribution coordinators.
- Import and export documentation staff.
- Procurement and sourcing professionals buying freight.
- Customs brokers and clearance officers.
- Finance and audit staff reviewing freight spend.

International Freight Management Course Outlines

Day 1: Trade Terms and Freight Fundamentals

- International trade flows and the parties in a freight transaction.
- Incoterms 2020 rules and transfer of risk and cost.
- Common Incoterms mistakes and their commercial cost.
- Freight market structure: carriers, forwarders, NVOCCs, and brokers.
- Modes: sea, air, road, rail, and multimodal combinations.
- Service types: FCL, LCL, LTL, and express.
- Choosing the right term and mode for a shipment.

Day 2: Freight Costing and Rate Management

- Freight cost components: base rate, surcharges, and ancillary charges.
- Chargeable weight and volumetric calculation.

- Landed cost build-up and cost per unit.
- Negotiating freight rates and service levels.
- Tendering, allocation, and carrier selection.
- Contract types: spot, contract, and index-linked.
- Benchmarking rates and auditing freight invoices.

Day 3: Documentation and Customs Clearance

- Bill of lading, sea waybill, and air waybill essentials.
- Commercial invoice, packing list, and certificate of origin.
- Customs classification and valuation basics.
- Duty relief schemes, free zones, and transit procedures.
- Letter of credit and documentary compliance.
- Electronic data interchange and digital documentation.
- Common documentation errors and how to prevent them.

Day 4: Operations, Risk, and Special Cargo

- Booking, cut-off times, and space control.
- Container loading, stowage, and securing.
- Demurrage, detention, and storage management.
- Cargo insurance: cover types, exclusions, and limits.
- Claims handling and recovery practice.
- Dangerous goods, temperature control, and out-of-gauge cargo.
- Cargo security and sealing in transit.

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Day 5: Carrier Performance, Technology, and Improvement

- Carrier and forwarder performance measurement.
- KPIs: transit time, on-time delivery, cost per unit, and damage rate.
- Tracking, visibility platforms, and milestone management.
- Freight audit and payment systems.
- Risk management for route and port disruption.
- Sustainability and emissions reporting in freight.
- Building a freight management improvement roadmap.

Conclusion

By successfully completing the International Freight Management Training Course, participants will have acquired a thorough working knowledge of Incoterms 2020 application, mode selection and freight costing, shipping documentation and customs clearance, carrier and forwarder management, demurrage and detention control, cargo insurance and claims, and freight performance measurement. They will leave able to plan international movements with predictable cost and risk, prevent documentation and clearance delays, and hold carriers and forwarders to measurable service levels. Gentex Training Center delivers this programme with freight and shipping practitioners working in live operations.

FAQs for the International Freight Management course

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Q1 What is the "International Freight Management" course about?

It is a five-day programme on planning and controlling the movement of goods across borders. It covers Incoterms 2020, mode selection, freight costing, shipping documentation and customs clearance, carrier and forwarder management, cargo insurance, and freight performance measurement.

Q2 What are the key benefits of the "International Freight Management" course?

Participants build freight cost with evidence instead of accepting invoices, avoid clearance delays and demurrage by preparing documents correctly the first time, and hold carriers and forwarders to measurable service levels. They also reduce damage and claims exposure through proper insurance and handling practice.

Q3 What skills will I gain from the "International Freight Management" course?

You will gain Incoterms 2020 application, transport mode selection and freight costing, shipping documentation and customs clearance management, and carrier, forwarder, and freight performance management.

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Q4 What tools, methods, or standards are covered in the "International Freight Management" course?

The course works with Incoterms 2020 rules, sea, air, road, rail and multimodal mode evaluation, FCL, LCL, LTL and express service selection, chargeable weight and volumetric calculation, freight rate components including base rate and surcharges, landed cost build-up, rate benchmarking and invoice auditing, tendering and carrier allocation, indexed and contract rate structures, bills of lading, sea waybills and air waybills, commercial invoice, packing list and certificate of origin preparation, customs classification and valuation basics, duty relief schemes, free zones and transit procedures, letter of credit documentary compliance, electronic data interchange, demurrage and detention management, cargo insurance cover types and exclusions, claims handling, dangerous goods and temperature-controlled shipping requirements, container stowage and securing practice, tracking and visibility platforms, freight audit and payment systems, and KPIs covering transit time, on-time delivery, cost per unit and damage rate.

Q5 How is the "International Freight Management" course applied in real-world practice?

Teams apply it when choosing an Incoterm for a new supply lane, tendering an annual freight contract, auditing a forwarder invoice, resolving a demurrage charge after port congestion, filing a cargo damage claim, and reviewing carrier on-time performance at a quarterly logistics meeting.