

Title	IMDG Code 2016 / SUPPLEMENT / IMO/ILO/UNECE Guidelines for Packing Cargo Transport Units / Definitions
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Definitions

For the purposes of these Guidelines, cargo transport unit (CTU) has the same meaning as intermodal transport unit (ITU) and the following definitions apply:

bulk cargoes means cargoes which are intended to be transported without any intermediate form of containment in bulk packagings or portable tanks;

block train means a number of permanently coupled railway wagons, normally running directly between two selected terminals or entities without shunting;

cargo means any goods, wares, merchandise and articles of any kind which are intended to be transported;

cargo transport unit (CTU) means a freight container, swap-body, vehicle, railway wagon or any other similar unit;

dangerous cargoes means packaged dangerous, hazardous or harmful substances, materials or articles, including environmentally hazardous substances (marine pollutants) and wastes, covered by the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code; the term dangerous cargoes includes any empty uncleaned packagings;

freight container means an article of transport equipment that is of a permanent character and accordingly strong enough to be suitable for repeated use; it is designed to transport a number of receptacles, packages, unit loads or overpacks together from the packing point to its final destination by road, rail, inland waterway and/or sea without intermediate separate handling of each package, unit load or overpack. The word 'freight' is not repeated throughout these Guidelines;

handling includes the operation of loading or unloading/discharging of a ship, railway wagon, vehicle or other means of transport;

intermediate bulk container (IBC) means a rigid, semi-rigid or flexible portable packaging that:

- .1 has a capacity of not more than 3.0 m3 (3,000 l) for solids and liquids;
- .2 is designed for mechanical handling; and
- .3 is resistant to the stresses produced in handling and transport, as determined by tests;

intermodal transport unit (ITU) means a container, swap-body or semi-trailer suitable for intermodal transport;

lift truck means a truck equipped with devices such as arms, forks, clamps, hooks, etc. to handle any kind of cargo, including cargo that is unitized, overpacked or packed in CTUs;

maximum payload means the maximum permissible weight of cargo to be packed into or onto a CTU. It is the difference between the maximum operating gross weight or rating and the tare weight, which are normally marked on CTUs as appropriate;

overpack means an enclosure used by a single shipper to contain one or more packages and to form one unit for convenience of handling and stowage during transport.

Examples of overpacks are a number of packages either:

- .1 placed or stacked on to a load board such as a pallet and secured by strapping, shrink-wrapping, stretch-wrapping or other suitable means; or
- .2 placed in a protective outer packaging such as a box or crate;

packing means the packing of packaged and/or unitized or overpacked cargoes into CTUs.

unpacking means the removal of cargo from CTUs.

packaging(s) means receptacles and any other components or materials necessary for the receptacle to perform its containment function;

packages means the complete product of the packing operation, consisting of the packaging and its contents as prepared for transport;

responsible person means a person appointed by a shore-side employer who is empowered to take all decisions relating to his/her specific task, having the necessary current knowledge and experience for that purpose, and who, where required, is suitably certificated or otherwise recognized by the regulatory authority;

ship means a seagoing or non-seagoing watercraft, including those used on inland waters;

shunting means the operation when single railway wagons or groups of railway wagons are pushed to run against each other and be coupled together;

stowage means the positioning of packages, IBCs, containers, swap-bodies, tank-containers, vehicles or other CTUs on board ships, in warehouses and sheds or in other areas such as terminals;

swap-body means a CTU not permanently attached to an underframe and wheels or to a chassis and wheels, with at least four twist-locks that take into account ISO standard 1161:1984. A swap-body need not be stackable but is usually equipped with support legs, designed especially for combined road-rail transport;

transport means movement of cargo by one or more modes of transport;

unit load means a number of packages that are:

- .1 placed or stacked on and secured by strapping, shrink-wrapping or other suitable means to a load board such as a pallet; or
- .2 placed in a protective outer enclosure such as a pallet box; or
- .3 permanently secured together in a sling;

vehicle means a road vehicle or railway freight wagon, permanently attached to an underframe and wheels or to a chassis and wheels, which is loaded and unloaded as a unit. It also includes a trailer, semi-trailer or similar mobile unit except those used solely for the purposes of loading and unloading.