



FREIGHT FORWARDER ASSESSMENT



WHAT IS A FREIGHT FORWARDER

International freight forwarders are agents that coordinate transportation and export documentation of cargo to foreign destinations. These agents should be familiar with the import rules and regulations of foreign countries, U.S. export regulations, different shipping methods and necessary documents. Freight forwarders are licensed by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) to handle air freight and by the Federal Maritime Commission to handle ocean freight.

FREIGHT FORWARDER (NAME) _____	YES	NO
<p>1. ARE THEY REPUTABLE? NOTES:</p> <p>If you're concerned about a forwarder's reputation and trustworthiness, then make sure to check if they are a WCA (World Cargo Alliance) approved member. at https://www.wcaworld.com/Landing. You can also use FreightDeadbeats at http://www.freightdeadbeats.com/eng/about.php to check if a freight forwarder provided inadequate services. Ask for references and check their history.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>2. DO THEY HAVE THE RIGHT EXPERIENCE? NOTES:</p> <p>Having a freight forwarder that knows the best practices for transporting your type of goods is paramount.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>3. DO THEY HAVE A GOOD NETWORK? NOTES:</p> <p>A freight forwarders' industry relationships are vital. Connections in the shipping industry are the difference between success and failure. Make sure to ask them for references or ask them who they work with.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	YES	NO
<p>4. CAN THEY PROVIDE THE RIGHT SERVICES FOR YOUR SHIPMENTS? NOTES:</p> <p>It's important to know if your freight forwarder can provide the document management and third-party logistics services you need.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>5. DO THEY HAVE A TRANSPARENT PRICING STRUCTURE? NOTES:</p> <p>You may find that the total freight rate offered is not transparent and that costs are being combined. Freight forwarders can charge you for <u>fuel surcharges or brokerage fees</u>, and you may not even know it.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>6. DO THEY OFFER CARGO INSURANCE? NOTES:</p> <p>If you want peace of mind and risk-reduction, then it's essential to purchase cargo insurance that provides coverage for <u>shipping by land, sea, or air against the possibility of loss or damage</u> to your shipment.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Important Things to Know About Freight Forwarders

They aren't Legally Responsible for Delays

A freight forwarder's estimated date of delivery is only a forecast.

Maintaining Good Relationships is Important

There are a few things you can do to ensure you keep a good relationship with your freight forwarder and making your bookings with advance notice and keeping your documentation organized are two ways to help.

Accept that Complications are Part of the Shipping Industry

Freight forwarders might be able to ship your cargo efficiently, but they can't perform miracles. Problems will inevitably arise.

Find a New Freight Forwarder if Your Current One is Consistently Negligent

The FITA (<https://fiata.com/>) The International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations is an excellent place to start your search.

The WCA (WORLD CARGO ALLIANCE) (<https://www.wcaworld.com/Landing>) has a large directory of approved freight forwarders that can be trusted.