

Why should my container be inspected?

(aka surveyed)

Export containers should be continually inspected/surveyed to avoid operational accidents and delays.

Most steamship lines require shipper owned containers to be surveyed to ensure units are suitable for transport (cargo worthy).

Make sure to budget enough time. Getting a container surveyed can take 3 to 5 business days in most major ports. This will vary based on seasonality and location.

Each transit can cause damage and deteriorate the cargo worthiness of the unit, have it inspected!



Knowing the type of cargo before buying the unit is important as it will impact the inspection criteria.

Foodstuff like rice, wheat, flour etc. have different criteria than a container used for Marble slabs or scrap metal.

Container must have a valid CSC-Plate and if carrying food, be food grade, if carrying marble have a sound understructure.

What inspection is needed for my container?



Two containers could be equally cargo worthy but one might be food grade and the other suitable for heavier loads.

What does IICL, CIC, CW, and WWT all mean?

These are all terms established in the industry to grade containers.

The Institute of International Container Lessors (IICL) and the Common Interchange Criteria (CIC) have strict guidelines for inspecting containers.

A cargo worthy (CW) container is just as sea worthy as an IICL or CIC but may have some heavier dents. Wind and Watertight (WWT) is just that, wind and watertight and may not be cargo worthy.