

SHIPPING CONTAINER TYPES



MATT HANDLERS INC.

SHIPPING CONTAINER TYPES – LCL SHIPMENTS

Introduction

Containers are objects used for holding or transporting cargo of different kinds. Some cargo may require a specific container type based on its nature, storage capacity, shippers' preference or cost. This simplified document will attempt to explain commonly used container types for **LCL** Cargo Shipments (Less – Than – Container Load)

Less Than Container Load – LCL

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The term **LCL** means less than container load. This refers to a cargo of smaller volume or dimension that will not take up the entire space of a full container. In this case, shippers can combine their shipments with other smaller cargoes to decrease the cost of shipping rather than paying full freight. This is considered "consolidating a shipment", freight charges on consolidated shipments are usually pro-rated and shared amongst all imported merchandise on board.

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CONTAINER TYPES



D-Container - This is a **large corrugated box** perfect for shipping, storage, transporting and moving cargo. It is one of the most popular forms of LCL shipment types. This box comes disassembled in 4 parts in order to reduce the cost of shipping and handling. It is very easy to assemble, no glue or staples required. The structure of this container fits 4 ready to use pieces together, simply and effective. The dimensions of this box are usually (**58 x 42 x 45**) inches with an approximate weight capacity of 1,200 lbs.



E-Container - This is a **large corrugated box** perfect for shipping, storage and transporting items. It is a heavy-duty bursting strength double wall fiberboard / cardboard box. It comes fully assembled and is smaller in size when compared to the D-Container. The dimensions of this box are (**42 x 29 x 25.5**) inches with an approximate weight capacity of 745 lbs. It is easy to use, easy to handle and helps to reduce the cost of bulk LCL shipments.



Barrel Container - This is a large, bulging cylindrical container of sturdy construction typically made from wooden staves, metal hoops or hard polymer plastic. It is one of the cheaper methods of shipping and are used to ship many different types of cargo. Barrels can be used for both dry materials and liquids, certain types are even certified to carry and store hazardous materials. The common size of these containers are 55-gallons but this may vary greatly depending on the type as they are probably the most extensive in variety of all containers. They are usually durable, re-useable, easy to handle and long lasting.



Pallets - This type of shipment is used with packaging materials which provide support to goods stacked on the pallet base during transport (i.e., marine shipment, land cargo transport). They are rigid, flat panels that provide stability to goods during lifting (using a forklift or pallet jack), stacking and transportation. They are economical, easy to handle, cheap to produce and usually made of wood. The standard pallet size is **(48 x 40)** inches with each deck board being 3 ½ inches wide and 5/16 inches thick. Other pallet sizes are present across different industries worldwide making this type of shipment international standard.



Shipping Container - These are strong metal boxes used to transport goods of all kinds including LCL shipments. They are generally made of steel and designed to be robust enough to handle long voyages on the open sea. Shipping containers are fitted at different lengths, sizes and types. The standard size of a container is **20ft** and **40ft** in length, **8ft** in width and **8ft 6"** inches in height. A high cube container will have an additional foot totaling **9ft 6"** inches in height. Most shipping containers are "Dry Containers" however, they may come as refrigerated containers, flat racks, open side, open tops or tanks (which are designed to hold liquids, including fuels).

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