

# Bulk Air Cargo Shipments Guidelines



# Introduction

Bulk shipment guidelines assist exporters moving 500kg+ volumes efficiently through consolidated air cargo networks. This service optimizes costs while maintaining scheduling reliability across seasonal peaks and manufacturing cycles.



# 1. Bulk Shipment Fundamentals

## 1.1 Volume Requirements

- **Minimum:** 500kg or full pallet (PMC/PAG standard)
- **Standard Bulk:** 500kg-5 tonnes
- **Heavy Bulk:** 5-50 tonnes
- **Charter Bulk:** 50+ tonnes or full aircraft

## 1.2 Equipment Types

- **Airline Pallets:** 96x125" (LD3), 96x88" (LD7)
- **Unit Load Devices:** Main-deck approved containers
- **Break-Bulk:** Irregular loads up to 300x200x200cm



## 2. ULD Preparation & Packing

### 2.1 Pallet Build Standards

- Maximum weight: 1500kg per pallet (safety limit)
- Height: 160cm including packaging
- Stackability: Confirm stability for 2-layer stacking
- Weight distribution: Balanced load for safe transport

### 2.2 Securing & Wrapping




- Use netting/strapping per IATA standards
- Avoid loose items protruding from pallet
- Wrap complete pallet in shrink wrap
- Apply ULD identification labels clearly

# 3. Consolidation Economics

## 3.1 Shared vs Dedicated

**Consolidation (Shared):** 500kg-2T @ Get Estimated Cost on call depending upon the destination country and location.

## 3.2 Cost-Per-Unit Calculation

		
Divide freight + handling by total chargeable weight	Add insurance and documentation as fixed costs per shipment	Compare with spot market rates for volume validation



## 4. Multi-Origin Consolidation

### 4.1 Pickup Coordination

- Collect from 3-10 manufacturing sites
- Verify documentation at each origin
- Transport to consolidation hub
- Build ULDs within 24-36 hours of collection

### 4.2 Hub Processing

- Break down incoming shipments
- Segregate by destination
- Repack into export ULDs
- Generate master AWB with shipper details



## 5. Customs Processing for Bulk

### 5.1 Consolidated Declarations

- Single commercial invoice covering all components
- Master packing list with individual shipment details
- Aggregate HS codes and descriptions
- Combined duty calculation for efficiency

### 5.2 Bulk Inspection Protocols

- Random partial inspection (sampling) more likely
- Faster clearance due to standardized packaging
- Documentation completeness critical
- Minor discrepancies delay entire bulk

## 6. Seasonality & Capacity Planning



### 6.1 Peak Season (Oct-Dec)

- Book 4-6 weeks ahead for guaranteed space
- Expect 15-20% premium rates
- Higher handling congestion at origin/destination
- Plan for 5-7 day additional buffer



### 6.2 Off-Peak Strategy (Jun-Aug)

- Negotiate 10-20% seasonal discounts
- Flexible scheduling with same-week options
- Opportunity to build inventory abroad
- Consolidate smaller shipments economically



## 7. Damage Prevention in Bulk

### 7.1 Packing Standards

- Use corrugated inserts between items
- Foam corner protectors for fragile items
- Anti-static wrapping for electronics
- Desiccant packets for moisture-sensitive cargo

### 7.2 Handling Instructions

- Mark "FRAGILE" on pallet sides
- Indicate weight distribution ("This side up")
- Specify stacking limits if applicable
- Include temperature warnings if needed



## 8. Tracking Bulk Consolidations

### 8.1 Master Tracking

- Single master AWB for entire bulk
- Track collection phase: 48 hours
- Consolidation phase: 24-48 hours
- Flight departure: Real-time notification

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### 8.2 Deconsolidation Tracking

- Individual shipment tracking post-destination
- Warehouse receiving confirmation
- Last-mile delivery status per shipper
- Final POD within 2-3 days of arrival