



Damage related to Cargo Handling

Cargo can become damaged in many ways during its journey from the seller to the buyer. One of the most common causes of a loss is handling error. The more the cargo is handled and moved during its voyage, the bigger the risk that damage will occur. It can be that the cargo itself is more prone to damage and cannot perhaps withstand the excess handling. Regardless of the robustness of the goods in question, if the handling of the goods is rough and careless, it is possible that damage to the goods may occur. The damage can happen onshore before and after loading, or it can be handled incorrectly onboard the ship which then in the event of a claim can result in a dispute between the cargo owner and the ship-owner.

Cargo handling onshore

- The cargo is damaged either in a port or by stevedores during loading or discharging.
- A shortage of cargo. Errors often occur either during the calculation or in poor tallying.
- The cargo is in poor condition.
- Contamination occurs at the loading port (tankers & bulkers).
- See also the Contamination sheet for tankers.



Cargo handling onboard ships

- Wet damage caused by rain or leakage into the cargo hold or the container.
- A shortage of cargo (tankers & bulkers). Errors often occur either during the calculation or in poor tallying.
- Damage to reefer cargo (container vessels). Errors often occur with the temperature setting, the malfunction of the reefer unit or with ventilation issues.
- Damage can also be caused by crew operations during the voyage or poor maintenance.

