

Glossary of Acronyms and Terms

Glossary of Acronyms

ABS	—American Bureau of Shipping	IMCO	—Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization
ACVS	—air-cushion vehicles	IMO	—International Maritime Organization
AID	—U.S. Agency for International Development, Department of State	IREAPS	—Institute for Research and Engineering Automation and Productivity in Shipbuilding
ANL	—Australian National Line	ITB	—integrated tug barges
APL	—American President Lines	LASH	—lighter aboard ship
ASIB	—Active Shipbuilding Industrial Base	LDCS	—less developed countries
AWES	—Association of West European Shipbuilders	LNG	—liquefied natural gas
BLS	—Bureau of Labor Statistics	LOILO	—lift-on/lift-off
CAB	—Civil Aeronautics Board	LPG	—liquefied petroleum gas
CAD/CAM	—computer-aided design/computer aided manufacturing	MarAd	—U.S. Maritime Administration
CAORF	—Computer-Assisted Operations Research Facility	MEL	—Marine Equipment Leasing, Inc.
CCA	—Controlled Carrier Act	MSC	—Military Sealift Command, U.S. Navy
CCF	—Capital Construction Fund	MTN	—Multilateral Trade Negotiations
CDS	—construction differential subsidy	NACOA	—National Advisory Committee on Ocean and Atmosphere
CGRT	—compensated gross registered tonnage	NSC	—National Security Council
c, i. f.	—cost, insurance, and freight	NSRP	—National Shipbuilding Research Program
CMEA	—Council for Mutual Economic Assistance	OBO	—oil, bulk ore
CPES	—centrally planed economies	ODS	—operating differential subsidy
CPI	—Consumer Price Index	OECD	—Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
DITI	—proposed Department of International Trade and Industry	OPEC	—Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
DOD	—U.S. Department of Defense	OPIC	—Overseas Private Investment Corporation
DOT	—U.S. Department of Transportation	OTA	—Office of Technology Assessment
dwt	—deadweight tons	R&D	—research and development
EEC	—European Economic Community	ROIRO	—roll-on, roll-off
ETCA	—Export Trading Company Act	SAJ	—Shipbuilders Association of Japan
Eximbank	—Export-Import Bank	SCA	—Shipbuilders Council of America
FMC	—U.S. Federal Maritime Commission	SESS	—surface effects ships
f.o.b.	—free on board	SNAME	—Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers
FTC	—U.S. Federal Trade Commission	SWATH	—small-waterplane-area twinhull vessels
GATT	—General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs	teu	—twenty-foot equivalent units
GDP	—gross domestic product	U.N.	—United Nations
GNP	—gross national product	UNCTAD	—United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
grt	—gross registered tons	USCG	—U.S. Coast Guard
IATA	—International Air Transport Association	USTR	—United States Trade Representative
I c c	—U.S. Interstate Commerce Commission	VLCCS	—very large crude carriers

Glossary of Terms

- ABS**—American Bureau of Shipping: A U.S.-based, private classification, or standards-setting, society for merchant ships and other marine systems.
- ASIB**—Active Shipbuilding Industrial Base: The major U.S. shipbuilding and repair facilities engaged in seeking contracts for construction of U.S. naval ships and/or major oceangoing or Great Lakes merchant ships. Presently 26 yards are included and, for defense purposes, are considered to be the core of the Nation's shipbuilding capability and a principal measure of the U.S. ability to respond to a national emergency.
- bare-boat charter**: A charter agreement which stipulates that the charterer provides for all operating expenses including crew, fuel, maintenance, etc.
- beneficial ownership**: Designates the owner who receives the benefits or profits from the operation.
- breakbulk**: A general, multipurpose, cargo ship that carries cargoes of nonuniform sizes, often on pallets, resulting in labor-intensive loading and unloading.
- bulk**: Cargoes that are shipped unpackaged either dry, such as grain and ore, or liquid, such as petroleum products. Bulk service generally is not provided on a regularly scheduled basis, but rather as needed, on specialized ships, transporting a specific commodity.
- CAD/CAM-computer-aided design/manufacturing**: An industrial term referring to the development of specifications and design data, via computers, which later are used as manufacturing inputs and controls.
- CAORF**—Computer-Assisted Operations Research Facility: A MarAd R&D facility.
- CCF**—Capital Construction Fund: A tax benefit for operators of U.S.-built, U.S.-flag ships in the U.S. foreign, Great Lakes, or noncontiguous domestic trades, by which taxes may be deferred on income deposited in a fund to be used for the replacement of vessels.
- CDS**—construction differential subsidy: A direct subsidy paid to U.S. shipyards building U.S.-flag ships to offset high construction costs in American shipyards. An amount of subsidy (up to 50 percent) is determined by estimates of construction cost differentials between U.S. and foreign yards.
- CGRT**—compensated gross registered tons: A measure of shipbuilding output which modifies total gross tonnage by allowances for differing levels of complexity in ships being built.
- c.i. f.**—cost, insurance, and freight: Export term in which the price quoted by the exporter includes the costs of ocean transportation to the port of destination and insurance coverage.
- CMEA**—Council for Mutual Economic Assistance: A Soviet-bloc organization comprising: Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and the Soviet Union.
- cabotage policies**: Reservation of a country's coastal (domestic) shipping for its own flag vessels.
- cargo preference**: Reserving some portion of a nation's imports and exports for their own flag vessels.
- carriers**: Owners or operators of vessels providing transportation to shippers. The term is also used to refer to the vessels.
- coastwise**: Domestic shipping routes along a single coast.
- conference**: An international group of ocean carriers serving common trade routes that collectively agree on rates and service.
- container ship**: A vessel designed to carry standard containers enabling efficient loading, unloading, and transport to and from the vessel.
- countertrade**: A form of international bartering involving importing and exporting companies or countries.
- cross-trades**: Foreign-to-foreign trade carried by ships from a nation other than the two trading nations.
- DITI**—proposed Department of International Trade and Industry: This proposed department would consolidate existing offices and programs into a single cabinet-level department.
- dwt**—deadweight tonnage: The total lifting capacity of a ship, expressed in tons of 2,240 lb. It is the difference between the displacement light and the displacement loaded.
- domestic offshore trades**: Domestic shipping routes serving Alaska and noncontinental U.S. States and territories.
- Eximbank**—Export-Import Bank: A Federal agency that aids in financing exports of U.S. goods and services through direct loans, loan guarantees, and insurance.
- f.o.b.**—free on board: Export term in which the price quoted by the exporter does not include the costs of ocean transportation, but does include loading on board the vessel.
- flag of registry**: The flag representing the nation under whose jurisdiction a ship is registered. Ships are always registered under the laws of one nation but are not always required to establish their home location in that country.
- flags of convenience**: Sometimes referred to as flags of necessity; denotes registration of vessels in foreign nations that offer favorable tax structures and regulations.
- GDP**—gross domestic product: The total value of goods and services produced by a nation over a given period, usually 1 year.
- GNP**—gross national product: GDP plus the net income accruing from foreign sources.

- grt—gross registered tons:** A common measurement of the internal volume of a ship with certain spaces excluded. One ton equals 100 cubic feet.
- Government-impelled:** Cargo owned by or subsidized by the Federal Government.
- IMO—International Maritime Organization:** Formerly known as the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO), was established in 1958 through the United Nations to coordinate international maritime safety and related practices.
- IREAPS—Institute for Research and Engineering Automation and Productivity in Shipbuilding:** IREAPS is a not-for-profit organization of shipbuilders and other members of the maritime industry set up to facilitate contracting and the dissemination of information from the National Shipbuilding Research Program.
- intercoastal:** Domestic shipping routes serving more than one coast.
- intermodalism:** The concept of transportation as a door-to-door service rather than port-to-port. Thus, efficiency is enhanced by having a single carrier coordinating the movement and documentation among different modes of transportation.
- intra-coastal:** Domestic shipping routes along a single coast.
- Jones Act:** Merchant Marine Act of 1920, Section 27, requiring that all U.S. domestic waterborne trade be carried by U.S.-flag, U.S.-built, and U.S.-manned vessels.
- LASH—lighter aboard ship:** A barge carrier designed to act as a shuttle between ports, taking on and discharging barges.
- landbridge:** A system of through rates and service offered by a carrier for cargo shipments from a foreign port to a U.S. port, across U.S. land to another U.S. port and finally by sea to a foreign port destination.
- lift-on/lift-off (LO/LO):** Ships designed to load and unload cargoes with cranes.
- liner service:** Vessels operating on fixed itineraries or regular schedules and established rates available to all shippers.
- microbridge:** A system of through rates and service offered by a carrier for cargo shipments from any inland U.S. location to a port, by sea to a foreign port and finally overland to foreign inland destination.
- NSRP—National Shipbuilding Research Program:** A research program jointly sponsored by the Federal Government and members of the shipbuilding industry.
- neobulk:** Shipments consisting entirely of units of a single commodity, such as cars, lumber, or scrap metal.
- noncontiguous:** Domestic shipping routes serving Alaska and noncontinental U.S. States and territories.
- OBO—oil, bulk, ore:** A combination carrier designed to transport combinations of petroleum, ore and dry-bulk commodities.
- ODS—operating differential subsidy:** A direct subsidy paid to U.S.-flag operators to offset the high operating costs of U. S. -flag ships when compared to foreign-flag counterparts.
- open registry:** A term used in place of ‘flag of convenience’ or “flag of necessity” to denote registry in a country which offers favorable tax, regulatory, and other incentives to ship owners from other nations.
- RO/RO—roll-on/roll-off:** Ships designed to allow trucks or other vehicles to drive on with trailers of cargo.
- Shipper’s Council:** An organization of shippers formed to collectively negotiate rates and services with the conferences of ship operators.
- Seabee:** A barge carrier design similar to “LASH” but which uses rollers to move the barges aboard the ship.
- shippers:** Individuals or businesses who purchase transportation services for their goods or commodities.
- teu—twenty-foot equivalent units:** A measurement of cargo-carrying capacity on a containership, referring to a common container size of 20 ft in length.
- title XI:** A ship financing guarantee program, originally established in Title XI of the Merchant Marine Act of 1936, under which the government guarantees up to 75 percent of the construction cost of vessels built with CDS or up to 87.5 percent of the construction cost of nonsubsidized vessels.
- tramp service:** Vessels operating without a fixed itinerary or schedule or charter contract.
- USTR—United States Trade Representative:** A Cabinet-level official in the White House with responsibilities for interagency coordination and representing the United States in international trade negotiations.
- U.S. Effective Controlled Fleet:** That fleet of merchant ships owned by United States citizens or corporations and registered under flags of ‘convenience’ or ‘necessity’ such as Liberia or Panama. The term is used to emphasize that, while the fleet is not U.S.-flag, it is effectively under U.S. control by virtue of the ship’s owners and can be called to serve U.S. interests in time of emergency.
- VLCCs—very large crude carriers:** Crude oil tankers between 200,000 and 400,000 dwt.