

# International Ocean Shipping: Current Concepts and Principles

International ocean shipping is a complex and ever-evolving industry. To be successful in this field, it is important to have a strong understanding of the current concepts and principles that govern it.

## The Role of International Ocean Shipping

International ocean shipping plays a vital role in the global economy. It is the primary means of transporting goods between countries, and it is estimated that over 90% of world trade is carried by sea. Ocean shipping is also essential for the transportation of raw materials, such as oil, gas, and minerals, and it is a major source of employment for people around the world.



## International Ocean Shipping: Current Concepts And Principles by Bernhard J. Abrahamsson

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 2976 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
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Print length : 254 pages  
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## The Different Types of Ocean Shipping

There are a variety of different types of ocean shipping, each with its own unique characteristics. The most common types of ocean shipping include:

- **Container shipping:** Container shipping is the most common type of ocean shipping. Cargo is packed into standardized containers, which are then loaded onto ships for transport. Container shipping is efficient and cost-effective, and it is used to transport a wide variety of goods.
- **Bulk shipping:** Bulk shipping is used to transport large quantities of unpackaged cargo, such as grain, coal, and iron ore. Bulk shipping is less expensive than container shipping, but it is not as efficient.
- **Tanker shipping:** Tanker shipping is used to transport liquids, such as oil, gas, and chemicals. Tankers are specially designed to carry these liquids safely and efficiently.
- **Reefer shipping:** Reefer shipping is used to transport perishable goods, such as fruits, vegetables, and meat. Reefer ships are equipped with refrigeration units to keep the cargo at a constant temperature.

## **The Key Concepts of International Ocean Shipping**

There are a number of key concepts that are essential to understanding international ocean shipping. These concepts include:

- **Freight rates:** Freight rates are the prices charged by shipping companies to transport goods. Freight rates are determined by a number of factors, including the type of cargo, the distance to be shipped, and the size of the shipment.
- **Bills of lading:** Bills of lading are legal documents that are issued by shipping companies to shippers. Bills of lading provide evidence of the contract of carriage between the shipper and the shipping company. They

also contain important information about the shipment, such as the description of the cargo, the weight and dimensions of the shipment, and the destination of the shipment.

- **Customs clearance:** Customs clearance is the process of clearing goods through customs when they are imported or exported. Customs clearance can be a complex and time-consuming process, and it is important to have a good understanding of the customs regulations of the countries involved.

## **The Principles of International Ocean Shipping**

There are a number of principles that govern international ocean shipping. These principles include:

- **The principle of freedom of the seas:** The principle of freedom of the seas states that all nations have the right to sail the seas freely and without interference from other nations. This principle is enshrined in international law, and it is essential for the safe and efficient operation of international ocean shipping.
- **The principle of innocent passage:** The principle of innocent passage states that ships have the right to pass through the territorial waters of other countries without causing any harm. This principle is also enshrined in international law, and it is important for the maintenance of peaceful relations between countries.
- **The principle of maritime law:** Maritime law is the body of law that governs ocean shipping. Maritime law is based on international treaties and conventions, and it is enforced by the courts of all maritime nations. Maritime law is essential for the protection of the rights of shippers, shipping companies, and seafarers.

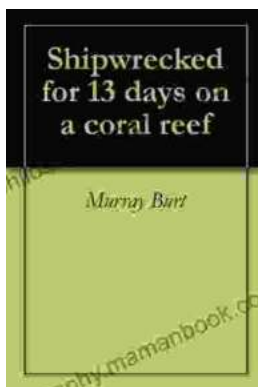
International ocean shipping is a complex and ever-evolving industry. To be successful in this field, it is important to have a strong understanding of the current concepts and principles that govern it. By understanding these concepts and principles, you can make informed decisions about the best way to transport your goods and avoid costly mistakes.



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