

Air Waybill (AWB) or air consignment note refers to a receipt issued by an international [courier](#) company for goods and an evidence of the [contract](#) of carriage, but it is not a document of title to the goods. Hence, the AWB is [non-negotiable](#).

The AWB has a tracking number which can be used to check the status of delivery, and current position of the shipment. The number consists of a three digits airline identifier issued by [IATA](#) and a 8 digit number. The last number being a check digit. The first 7 digits can be divided by 7 using [Long division](#) and the remainder will be the last digit. The first three copies are classified as originals. The first copy is retained by the issuing carrier or their appointed agent. The 2nd copy by the receiving carrier or their appointed agent. The 3rd copy is used as [Proof Of Delivery](#) (POD).

The goods in the air [consignment](#) are consigned directly to the party (the consignee) named in the [letter of credit](#) (L/C). Unless the goods are consigned to a third party like the issuing bank, the importer can obtain the goods from the carrier at destination without paying the issuing bank or the consignor. Therefore, unless a cash payment has been received by the exporter or the buyer's integrity is unquestionable, consigning goods directly to the importer is risky.

For air consignment to certain destinations, it is possible to arrange payment on a COD ([cash on delivery](#)) basis and consign the goods directly to the importer. The goods are released to the importer only after the importer makes the payment and complies with the instructions in the AWB.

In air freight, the exporter (the consignor) often engages a freight forwarder or consolidator to handle the forwarding of goods. The consignor provides a Shipper's Letter of Instructions which authorizes the forwarding agent to sign certain documents (e.g. the AWB) on behalf of the consignor.

The AWB must indicate that the goods have been accepted for carriage, and it must be signed or authenticated by the carrier or the named agent for or on behalf of the carrier. The signature or authentication of the carrier must be identified as carrier, and in the case of agent signing or authenticating, the name and the capacity of the carrier on whose behalf the agent signs or authenticates must be indicated.

International AWBs that contain consolidated cargo are called master air waybills (MAWB). MAWBs have additional papers called house air waybills (HAWB). Each HAWB contains information of each individual shipment (consignee, contents, etc.) within the consolidation. International AWBs that are not consolidated (only one shipment in one bill) are called *simple AWBs*.

A **house air waybill** can also be created by a [freight forwarder](#). When the shipment is booked, the airline issues a MAWB to the forwarder, who in turn issues their own house air waybill to the customer.

Shipper's Name and Address		Shipper's Account Number		Not negotiable Air Waybill 125-3333 4444 Issued by <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">AIRWAYS WORLD CARGO</div>			
				Copies 1, 2, and 3 of this Air Waybill are originals and have the same validity.			
Consignee's Name and Address		Consignee's Account Number		It is agreed that the goods described herein are accepted in apparent good order and condition (except as noted) for carriage SUBJECT TO THE CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT ON THE REVERSE HEREOF. THE SHIPPER'S ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO THE NOTICE CONCERNING CARRIER'S LIMITATION OF LIABILITY. Shipper may increase such limitations of liability by declaring a higher value for carriage and paying a supplemental charge if required.			
Issuing Carrier's Agent Name and City							
Agent's IATA Code		Account No.					
Airport of Departure (Addr. Of First Carrier) and Requested Routing				Accounting Information			
To	By First Carrier	Routing and Destination	To	By	To	By	Currency
Airport of Destination		Flight/Date	For Carrier Use Only		Flight/Date	Amount of Insurance	INSURANCE - If carrier offers insurance, and such insurance is requested in accordance with the conditions thereof, indicate amount to be insured in figures in box marked "Amount of Insurance".
Handling Information							
							SCI
No. of Pieces	Gross Weight	Kg	Rate Class	Commodity Item No.	Chargeable Weight	Rate/Charge	Total
RCP							
Prepaid		Weight Charge		Collect		Other Charges	
						Shipper certifies that the particulars on the face hereof are correct and that insofar as any part of the consignment contains dangerous goods, such part is properly described by name and is in proper condition for carriage by air according to the applicable Dangerous Goods Regulations.	
		Valuation Charge					
		Tax					
		Total Other Charges Due Agent					
		Total Other Charges Due Carrier				Signature of Shipper or his Agent Executed on (Date) at (Place) Signature of Issuing Carrier or its Agent	
Total Prepaid		Total Collect					
Currency Conversion Rates		CC Charges in Dest. Currency					