

Reduce Overall Import Costs with Overweight Ocean Containers





OVERVIEW

When importing containers from Asia and other overseas markets, many companies limit their container weights to meet U.S. road weight limits. This is often a mistake.

Shipping overweight containers can offer you significant ocean cost savings. To capitalize on these savings, however, you need a logistics partner like Weber Logistics that operates close to key West Coast ports like the Ports of L.A. and Long Beach.

In this eBrochure, we will examine the benefits of overweight container shipping – and how Weber can help you realize them.



REDUCE STEAMSHIP LINE COSTS

4 Standard Weight Containers = 3 Overweight Containers

If your products are currently shipping in standard containers and maxing out at the legal highway weight (around 43,000 lbs), with open "air" space remaining, that empty space amounts to lost profit for your business. For the same commodity, steamship lines typically charge the same whether your cargo weighs 43,000 pounds or up to 58,000 pounds.

As such, your ocean containers can be loaded overseas **up to their full container weight capacity**, which is much higher than US over-the-road legal capacity.

By filling each container to its maximum weight, you'll ship fewer containers, reducing your total costs for import transportation by 15–20%.



OVERWEIGHT DRAYAGE AND LOAD REDUCTION

The key to this cost reduction strategy is transloading the freight quickly and efficiently near the port. Once heavy containers arrive in the US, Weber Logistics can unload a portion of the cargo to reduce the weight of each container to highway-legal levels. For shipments coming into the Ports of L.A. and Long Beach, Weber deploys a special 4-axle tractor to pick up the container at the terminal. From there, Weber drays the container – still at its maximum capacity – through the Overweight Corridor to its transload facility located within the Corridor. That requires special permits, placarding, and driver training.



FINAL MILE DELIVERY

At Weber's transload facility the container's cargo weight will be reduced to a highway-legal amount. On most highways, the gross vehicle weight [GVW] can't exceed 80,000 lbs, so the cargo is typically reduced to 43,000 lbs. The container is then delivered to your destination facility with that portion of the cargo. Weber consolidates the remaining cargo from that container with the remaining cargo from (usually) two other containers, loads it all into one container and delivers it with another truck.



KEY TAKEAWAY

The reduction in the cost of ocean freight far outweighs the additional cost required for drayage, transloading and final delivery of the split load.

The overall throughput cost for import transportation is typically reduced by 15-20%.

EXAMPLE

Here is an example showing the savings for a company that ships 1,000 standard containers

Pro Forma Container Load Weight	Standard	Overweight
Container Load Weight (Ibs)	43,000	58,000
Pro Forma Costs Per Container		
Container Ocean Gross Steamship Charges	\$4,500	\$4,500
Standard Drayage to POLA/B to West IE	\$600	NA
Overweight Drayage to Transload Service Center	-	\$450
Load Reduction Handling	NA	\$125
Reduced Load Drayage Service Center(SC) to Wes	it IE -	\$400
Residual Transport SC to West IE (15K Lbs)	-	\$175
Total Costs/Container	\$5,100	\$5,650
Conversion Rate Standard-to-Overweight Contain	er 1.00	0.741
Pro Forma Standard Containers Per Year	1,000	741
Cost Comparison \$	5,100,000	\$ 4,186,650
Savings (17.9%)		\$ 913,350



We'd love an opportunity to discuss your shipping and logistics needs directly. This could be just a short phone chat, or a more detailed discussion. This consultation involves our logistics experts sitting down with you, at no charge and with no obligation, to learn about your logistics challenges and then provide you with ideas on ways to drive down costs and improve service.

Arrange a Discussion



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