

PROBLEMS OF CARGO DELIVERY FROM CHINA TO EUROPE

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When delivering goods from China, four traditional logistics routes are used: sea route (the cheapest, but usually the longest), air delivery (the most expensive and fastest), land route - rail and road transportation. Which one to choose?

Most cargo from China is transported by sea. There are about 20 large and more than 100 small ports in China. Five of the ten largest world ports are located in China: Shanghai, Shenzhen, Ningbo, Guangzhou, Qingdao. Shanghai port is the largest in the world.

In general, logistics is non-linear. If one of the links in the chain is at least one day late, then the total delay of goods can be up to a month.

How is the logistics

As soon as the goods in the warehouse in China are ready for shipment, the customs clearance procedure begins. The container with the goods must arrive at the port 2-3 days before the arrival of the ship, after which it automatically gets on the ship. The ship goes to Europe on average about 30 days.

The second link in the logistics chain is overland, your cargo either ends up on a train or a truck.

The problem of choosing the "right", reliable vessel is not for the owner of the goods. Vessels from China depart regularly in all directions. They go to Europe every day.

Transportation is carried out by large companies that can be trusted. These are, for example, MAERSKLINE, MSC (Mediterranean Shipping Company) or Hyundai. By the way, few people know that Hyundai's main business is not cars, but ships and containers.

Typically, an ocean liner can carry from 10,000 to 20,000 TU (twenty-foot equivalent unit) - a conventional designation for one 20-foot container in logistics.

If you have a large company, you can charter the entire liner from the carrier company. And if the cargo flow is small, then you can act through agents who will "lead" you to a large company.

The maritime logistics market has long been established and operates according to fairly transparent rules. But there are also nuances. For example, you should check the free term of the container in advance.

When your cargo arrives at the port, you will need time to deliver the goods to your own warehouses. Then already empty containers will have to be returned to the carrier company. Make sure to meet as soon as possible and not overpay for a container. It is also necessary to take into account the differences in other free "storage periods" provided by the company, because it happens that the goods are not cleared through customs immediately and are in a container in the port. All companies have different parameters, so you need to agree on them in advance.

Goods with high turnover and limited shelf life are transported by air. But it's not just about food. For example, almost all electronic devices (especially small electronics) are classified as goods with a limited shelf life. If you bring an iPhone to Russia by sea, then it will not be in demand. The average air delivery time, taking into account customs clearance, is 5 days: on Monday the goods are at the airport of China, on Tuesday-Wednesday the plane flies, on Wednesday-Thursday the goods are cleared through customs, on Friday the goods are already in the warehouse. True, you will have to pay several times more for this.

The railway is usually used as a link in multimodal transportation: when the cargo first sails to the Far East, and then it is delivered by train to countries. Perhaps this is the most popular of the existing types of delivery. "Pure" rail transportation from China to Europe is also used. But here the problem is in the dimensions of the railway track, which do not match in Europe and China, so the goods after crossing the border have to be rearranged from one train to another. This is a rather long process, which seriously increases the cost of some types of cargo.

The choice of a logistics chain ultimately depends on three components: timing, price and quality of delivery. If you are bringing 10,000 newly released iPhones to Moscow, then most likely they will be sold out the next day. Here turnover is important for business, so it is better to choose the fastest one - air delivery. And if you deliver, for example, cheap chemicals, 20 tons of which cost \$7,000, then it is profitable to transport them by the cheapest way - by sea. Auto-delivery is faster than sea delivery, but it is dangerous: the goods tend to hit the road, robberies are not excluded. Need it fast - use air transportation. If the timing is not important and the business has the opportunity to freeze money for a while while the cargo is sailing, choose the sea route

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

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Without transportation, it is impossible to imagine the daily, full provision of various human needs(2).

Legal support(3) of economic activity in the field of transport is very important. And this, unfortunately, begins to be understood only when the cargo is damaged or lost, obligations are not fulfilled, there are problems with the tax authorities, etc.

Transportation includes(4):

- Trucking (passengers, cargo);
- Water transportation (by sea, river);
- Air transportation;
- Rail Transportation;
- Piggybacking.