



## The role of a cargo surveyor

What is the role of a cargo surveyor? Who exactly is the surveyor working for? These and many other questions often arise. The cargo surveyor is an independent party who should remain impartial when overseeing a cargo claim. The roles and responsibilities of a cargo surveyor include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

### Verify the condition of cargo

When a buyer purchases goods from a seller, the buyer may employ a cargo surveyor to check if the goods are the same as those mentioned in the contract in terms of size, weight, content, etc. before loading on board of vessel.

### Investigate cargo loss or damage

When a loss or damage happens, the freight surveyor must use professional expertise to ascertain the cause, measure the magnitude of the damage, and provide a complete picture of the condition in a survey report that will help the insurer to better decide whether the loss or damage is covered by the policy.



### Provide technical and professional advice

Buyers will also seek a cargo surveyor's technical and professional advice for insuring or transporting goods, on matters such as:

- How to transport large-scale machinery
- The best way to pack goods to ensure proper protection
- How to fulfil the insurance company's requirements in order to get insured

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### Estimate the cost of the cargo

When loss or damage occurs to cargo, the cargo surveyor will estimate the cost of the goods and provide a survey report to the claimant, which could be used as a reference for filing claim.

To conclude, in the unfortunate event of claims, if customers provide sufficient information to the cargo surveyor in an efficient manner upon request, this could definitely speed up the claim process.

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