Container Handler

Used Container Handler San Jose - Also known as container ships or cargo ships, container handlers use large intermodal containers to transport their goods. This type of shipping is called containerization and it is a specific kind of freight transport that carries non-bulk types of seagoing cargo. Container ship capacity is measured in units that are equal to 20’ equivalent loads. Most loads are a mix of 20’ and 40’ containers. Container ships are responsible for transporting roughly ninety percent of non-bulk items across the globe. These ships are one of the main oil tanker rivals due to their size as one of the biggest sea-worthy ships. Dry cargo falls into two main categories: bulk cargo and break-bulk cargo. Grain and coal fall into the bulk cargo category. They are often moved in their raw form, package-free in large volumes in the hull of the ship. Manufactured goods that are in packages comprise the majority of break-bulk cargo. Prior to containerization being invented in the 1950s, break-bulk materials were loaded, secured, unlashed and unloaded one piece at a time from the ship. When the cargo was grouped into containers, there were approximately 1000-3000 cubic feet of cargo that can be simultaneously moved after each unit has been standardized and secured. Overall efficiency has largely increased with break-bulk cargo shipping. Thanks to these new systems, shipping time has been reduced by eighty-four percent and costs have come down by roughly thirty-five percent. In 2001, over ninety percent of non-bulk materials were recorded as being transported in containers. In the 1940s, the first container ships were made from tankers that underwent conversion after World War II. Cargo ships do not use individual dividers, holds or hatches that are a part of traditional container ships. The hull of the container ship is similar to a sizeable warehouse that uses vertical guide rails to divide the area into cells. These cells have been engineered to hold the cargo in containers. Most cargo ships are designed from steel but additional materials such as plywood, fiberglass and wood are used. Many containers are categorized by their size and function since they are designed to be transferred to and from trucks, trains, coastal carriers, semi-trailers and more. The entire shipping industry has been revolutionized by containerization, although, it did not start out in the easiest manner. Railway companies, ports and shippers were initially concerned about the extensive costs associated with building the railway infrastructure and ports required to accommodate container ships, along with moving the containers via road and rail. Various trade unions were skeptical about huge job loss with dock and port workers based on the assumption that containers would eliminate numerous cargo handling manual jobs among ports. After roughly 10 years of legal battles, container ships initiated international service. In 1966, a container liner service from Rotterdam to the US began and this transformed global shipping. Container ships only take a few hours to be loaded and unloaded, compared to the days a traditional cargo vessel required. Along with cutting labor finances, it has shortened shipping times between ports to a large extent. Nowadays, it takes only weeks as opposed to months for items to be delivered from Europe to India and vice versa. There is generally less damage to goods due to less handling. Less cargo shifting during a voyage is also beneficial. Containers are sealed prior to shipping and opened only once they arrive at their destination, resulting in less theft and disruption. There have been less shipping expenses and shipping time thanks to container ships which has increased international trade. Cargo that used to arrive in bales, crates, bags, cartons or barrels now arrives in containers sealed from the factory. A product code on the contents is traced with the help of computers and scanning equipment. Technology has made this tracking system accurate and exact to enable a two week voyage to be timed for arrival within an accuracy rate of under fifteen minutes. Manufacturing times and delivery have been greatly enhanced with these advancements. Raw materials are delivered in less than an hour in sealed containers within an hour prior to being utilized for manufacturing. This results in more accuracy and less inventory costs. The shipping companies supply the exporters with boxes for loading products. Materials are delivered by rail or docks or a combination of both and then loaded into container handlers. Before containerization, it would take large groups of men and many hours fitting cargo items into

different holds. The shipping industry today relies on cranes either installed on the ship or on the pier to situate containers on board. After the hull has been fully loaded, additional containers can be attached to the deck. The key design element for container ships has been efficiency. Containers may travel on break-bulk vessels. However, cargo holds that have been dedicated to container ships have been carefully built to speed up the loading and unloading process and designed to keep containers secure while traveling the ocean. A specially designed hatch creates openings to access the main cargo holds from the deck. These openings flow along the whole cargo hold area and are surrounded by the hatch coaming which is a raised steel structure. There are hatch covers located on top of the hatch coamings. Until the 1950s, wooden boards and tarps were responsible for securing the hatches and holding down the battens. Hatch covers are made of secure metal plates and cranes are used to lift them on and off of the ship. Additional hatch models use hydraulic rams and articulated mechanisms for closing and opening. Cell guides are a necessary component in cargo ship design. The cell guides are vertical pieces constructed of strong metal that is attached to the cargo hold within the ship. These guide containers into specific rows during the loading process and offer support during sea travel. The container ship design relies on cell guides so much that organizations as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development use them to differentiate between regular break-bulk cargo ships and container ships. To showcase a container's position on the ship, there is a cargo plan system that use three dimensions. The first coordinate is the bay which begins at the front of the ship and increases aft. The second coordinate is the tier. The first tear begins in the lower portion of the cargo holds with the second tier found on top of the first tier and continuing in that fashion. Next, the third row forms the third coordinate. Rows situated on the starboard side feature odd numbers and rows situated on the port side showcase even numbers. The cargo situated near the centerline showcases lower numbers and as the cargo increases further from the center, the numbers get higher. Container handlers carry 20, 40 and 45 foot containers. The biggest sizes only fit above the deck. The forty-foot containers comprise most of the load or roughly 90% of container shipping. Approximately 90% of the freight moves across the globe with container shipping. It is estimated that 80% of global freight travels with 40-foot containers.