

Project: Food and Environment
Title: Transport of food by sea freight
Students: Matthias Bänziger and Jeannine Herren
Berufsmatura 2, class TZ19
Contact: matthias.baenziger@stud.wkvw.ch
jeannine.herren@stud.wkvw.ch
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Interview questions to the Mediterranean Shipping Agency AG (MSC)

Dear Mrs. Gasser,

We thank you for agreeing to answer our questions about transporting food by container. We will gladly submit our questions to you here:

1. In your opinion, how has cargo shipping changed over the last 30 years in terms of quantity, technology and sustainability?

Cargo shipping has developed strongly in all these areas, especially in the container sector. The information on the development of MSC, especially in the context of sustainability, can be found on our website [msc.com](https://www.msc.com).

Technology: <https://www.msc.com/technology>
Sustainability: <https://www.msc.com/che/sustainability>

2. What are the advantages of shipping by ship compared to transport by air?

It is possible to transport larger quantities at the same time, the CO₂ emissions per transported ton are a fraction and shipping is much cheaper than airfreight.

3. What are the biggest challenges in transporting food?

That the foodstuffs reach the recipient in an edible way, which in part means that the ripening process has to be slowed down or interrupted.

4. What are the challenges of time management so that food can get from A to B in the quickest possible way?

Coordination throughout the transport network. Since we specialize in ocean freight, you would be better advised by a freight forwarding company.

Otherwise, we offer more information on our website:
<https://www.msc.com/che/industries/food-beverages>

5. Can it happen that a refrigerated container from abroad, despite cooling with spoiled goods arrives? Or accidentally even traveling insects?

This always depends on the correct stowage process, for which the senders / packers are responsible. If there is a mistake, this can happen.

What happens to the affected container in such a case?

This depends on the exact damage & the judicial liability.

6. What electricity is used to "feed" the refrigerated containers on the ships?

The containers are connected to the ship and are "fed" with the appropriate energy supply. In our Sustainability Report you will also find information about port terminals on which ships are supplied with electric current. This also applies to the reefer containers loaded on board. Link: <http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/9921f3f9#/9921f3f9/1>

7. How do you think the way of food transport will change in the coming years? Will the quantities (quantity) continue to increase?

As the population continues to multiply, food transport is likely to increase.

If yes, how will the larger quantity be transported in the future?

Rather with larger / longer ships or by the expansion of the ship fleet (additional ships)? Who knows what the future will bring technologically.

Are there any new technologies in the shipping sector for more sustainability, which are currently being researched?

This is constantly being researched. For more information, visit the International Maritime Organization website: <http://www.imo.org/en/Pages/Default.aspx>

We sincerely thank you for taking the time to answer our questions.

Yours sincerely,

Matthias Bänziger and Jeannine Herren