

USING FIATA DOCUMENTS

One of the benefits of BIFA membership is the access to a range of internationally accepted uniform transport documents. These may be purchased from the Association or printed under a licence issued by BIFA in return for an annual fee.

The current prices can be found on the BIFA website. Our publications order form can be found under the INFORMATION tab.

The documents supplied by BIFA include:-

- FIATA Multimodal Bill of Lading (FBL)
- FIATA Multimodal Transport Waybill (FWB)
- FIATA Forwarders Certificate of Receipt (FCR)

These documents are only available for the exclusive use of BIFA Trading Member Companies and provide a standard recognised world-wide by other forwarders, banks and insurance companies.

Your liability insurance should cover the issue of FIATA documents and BIFA is obliged to see evidence of cover before processing any orders.

The FIATA Multimodal Bill of Lading (FBL)

This document can fulfil a number of functions. It is a negotiable document of title and it can be used for multimodal transport movements and as a forwarder's house bill of lading.

FIATA Multimodal Transport Waybill (FWB)

Letters of Credit are more frequently nominating waybills as an alternative to an ocean bill of lading or other carriage document. This requirement is met by the FWB. In addition, members who operate NVOOC, groupage or consolidation services will find this a useful control document as an alternative to a house bill of lading. This applies in particular when there is no requirement for banking purposes.

As with the FBL this document can be purchased with a unique reference number or sold under licence and it is subject to the same restrictions on the FBL. A single FIATA licence will cover the issue of both the FBL and the FWB.

FIATA Forwarders Certificate of Receipt (FCR)

Although not so widely used the FCR is occasionally called for in the case of ex-works or FOB/FCA shipments and can be a useful addition to the forwarder's range of documents.

“It is a condition of both FIATA and BIFA membership that an FCR form cannot be used for shipments of steel and any such use could invalidate liability insurance cover”

All FIATA documents are issued according to strict controls on format, layout and colour. BIFA's own licence agreement with FIATA does not allow us to deviate from these prescriptions.

**To place an order for the above documents please e-mail Marion Fisher
m.fisher@bifa.org**

This Guide has been produced by the Association with a view to providing general industry guidance to Members. However, it is not legal advice nor is it a Substitute for legal advice. The Association is only in a position to provide general non-legal guidance as each Member's situation may be different and this may affect particular legal advice that may be given by suitably qualified lawyers to each Member. The Association is not able to provide legal advice and if you wish to ensure that any specific action you intend to take while relying on this general guide is legally appropriate you are advised to consult a qualified Lawyer experienced in the relevant legal field which may include forwarding, transport, logistics, international trade and commerce in advance of taking such action.

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