



BERRY & DONALDSON
(Pty) Limited
GLOBAL FREIGHT LOGISTICS
Established 1963

NEWS

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Ensuring specialised cover will save you

Berry & Donaldson is always at pains to encourage our client to get the best possible insurance cover for their cargo whilst in transit (or warehousing).

It may be tempting to think that nothing can really go too badly wrong or that basic insurance will cover the risks in the freighting process.



However, experience tells us that the freighting process is all too fraught with possibilities that could see importers or exporters lose their cargo or have it rendered unfit for its commercial use. Unfortunately marine insurance is not straightforward, which is why we (as a representative of Eikos Risk Applications) encourage our clients to obtain cover that is relevant to their particular shipments, rather than settle for a “one size fits all” policy.

For instance, a huge amount of goods are classified as hazardous and dangerous, often unbeknownst to the cargo owners (exporters and importers). As an agent B&D can assist with determining whether cargo is in fact within such a classification and that the correct cover is purchased for its freighting. Ignorance will not be accepted as an excuse by insurers should something happen to their cargo – or indeed its environment .

For instance hazardous cargo that spills during transit can cause far reaching damage to the environment and will have to be cleaned and disposed of (at the cargo owner’s expense). Specialised commodities such as hazardous or perishable cargo (that can spoil) require specialised, specific cover.

As Hugh Reimers, Managing Director of Eikos Risk Applications said in Export & Import (March 2014): The freight sector is particularly complex and it is most important that a risk specialist is consulted who is able to provide holistic solutions which protect both the cargo owner and the freight operator comprehensively”