



Siyamoova Logistics Tips & Insights

Smart Shipping: How to Save Costs, Move Faster & Avoid Delays

1. How to Reduce Shipping Costs

Spend smarter. Ship better.

Shipping costs can quietly eat into your margins if not managed correctly. The key is **strategy, not shortcuts**.

Key Ways to Reduce Costs:

1. Consolidate Shipments (LCL / Groupage)

- Combine smaller shipments into one
- Ideal for businesses not filling a full container
- Reduces per-unit shipping cost

2. Plan Ahead (Avoid Urgent Freight)

- Last-minute = expensive (especially air freight)
- Forecast demand and ship earlier using sea freight

3. Optimise Packaging

- Reduce dead space
- Use stackable, standard-sized packaging
- Lower volumetric weight = lower cost

4. Choose the Right Incoterms

- Understand what you're paying for
- Avoid hidden costs like unexpected duties or handling

5. Work With a Freight Partner (Not Just a Carrier)

- A good forwarder (like Siyamoova)
- Finds cost-saving routes, consolidations, and alternatives

Takeaway:

The cheapest shipment isn't always the lowest quote - it's the one that's planned correctly.

2. Choosing the Right Transport Mode

Speed vs Cost vs Reliability

Selecting the right transport mode can make or break your supply chain.

Air Freight

Best for: Urgent, high-value, or lightweight goods

- Fastest option (days)
- Higher cost
- Reliable schedules

Ocean Freight

Best for: Bulk, heavy, or non-urgent shipments

- Most cost-effective
- Slower (weeks)
- Ideal for long-term planning

Road Transport

Best for: Local & cross-border deliveries

- Flexible and door-to-door
- Faster than sea for regional moves
- Great for final-mile distribution

How to Choose:

Ask yourself:

- How urgent is this shipment?
- What is the value of the goods?
- Can I plan ahead or is this reactive?

Takeaway:

The right mode isn't about preference - it's about purpose.

3. Preparing Goods for Shipping

Protection = Prevention

Poor preparation leads to damaged goods, delays, and unexpected costs.

Best Practices:

1. Secure Packaging

- Use durable boxes, pallets, or crates
- Protect against movement during transit

2. Proper Labelling

- Clear shipping labels
- Include handling instructions (Fragile, This Side Up, etc.)

3. Palletising

- Stack goods evenly
- Wrap securely (shrink wrap or strapping)
- Makes handling faster and safer

4. Documentation Readiness

- Commercial invoice
- Packing list
- Certificates (if required)

5. Consider Cargo Insurance

- Protect against loss or damage
- Especially important for high-value goods

Takeaway:

If it's not packed properly, it's not ready to ship.

4. Avoiding Customs Delays

Clear faster. Move smarter.

Customs delays are one of the biggest disruptors in logistics — but most are avoidable.

Common Causes of Delays:

- Incorrect or missing documentation
- Wrong tariff classifications (HS Codes)
- Under/over-declared values
- Regulatory compliance issues

How to Avoid Them:

1. Accurate Documentation

- Ensure all paperwork matches exactly
- No inconsistencies between invoice & packing list

2. Correct HS Code Classification

- Determines duties and compliance requirements
- Mistakes = delays + penalties

3. Understand Import Regulations

- Some goods require permits or inspections
- Each country has different rules

4. Work With a Customs Expert

- A freight forwarder ensures compliance
- Reduces risk of delays or fines

5. Be Transparent

- Always declare correct values and contents
- Shortcuts lead to bigger problems

Takeaway:

Customs isn't complicated - it's precise.



Siyamoova
LOGISTICS
TOGETHER WE MOVE FORWARD

☎ 083 769 9498

✉ samanthaw@siyamoovaglobal.co.za

📍 6 Ronbex Road, Activia Park
Germiston, 1429, Gauteng,
South Africa

Final Thoughts

Shipping doesn't have to be complicated or expensive — with the right planning, partners, and processes, it becomes a **competitive advantage**.

Ready to optimise your shipping strategy?

Let Siyamoova handle the complexity while you focus on growing your business.

Contact us today for a tailored logistics solution.