

Updated on: April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

## FOLK Maritime - Carriage of Hides Guidelines (Special Cargo)

### Introduction:

FOLK Maritime is committed to providing exceptional shipping solutions while maintaining the highest standards of safety, efficiency, and environmental protection. The transportation of hides in containers presents unique challenges that necessitate specific handling, preparation, and stowage procedures to mitigate risks and ensure the integrity of the cargo, containers, and shipping vessels. This document outlines the recommended practices and requirements for shippers, packers, and agents involved in the carriage of hides with FOLK Maritime.

### Cargo Description:

Hides, including both wet hides and sheepskins, are susceptible to releasing excess brine during transportation. This runoff, if not properly managed, can lead to offensive odours, potential health hazards, container damage through corrosion, and contamination of other cargoes and ship infrastructure.

### Guidelines Objectives:

To minimize the risks associated with transporting hides in containers, FOLK Maritime advises adherence to the following guidelines, ensuring cargo integrity and reducing potential liabilities for damage.

### Container Inspection and Preparation:

1. **Inspection:** Prior to packing, containers must be thoroughly inspected for sharp edges or debris that could puncture or damage the protective liner.
2. **Lining:** Containers should be lined with a robust polythene liner to create a complete envelope around the cargo, effectively capturing any moisture. The liner must be secured with a bail lash or rope through the container's lashing points to prevent slippage.
3. **Absorbent Medium:** A fine-grade absorbent sawdust layer is required to cover the container floor entirely, absorbing excess brine. Coarse materials are discouraged due to their inferior absorbent properties.

### Stowage of Hides/Skins:

1. **Floor Protection:** To protect the liner from tears, a runner (plastic or timber) should be used on the container floor and withdrawn as loading progresses.
2. **Careful Handling:** Utmost care is needed to prevent liner damage and ensure pallets do not skid or rub against container walls. Any tears in the liner must be promptly repaired with PVC tape.
3. **Sealing:** After loading, the liner's open end should be securely closed and clipped to the container's lashing points, forming a seal at the door end to contain runoff not absorbed by the sawdust.

### Unstuffing and Container Return:

1. **Immediate Devanning:** Containers must be devanned immediately upon discharge to minimize damage if liner puncturing has occurred.
2. **Careful Unpacking:** The process should be carried out carefully to prevent liner tearing and spillage.
3. **Cleaning:** Post-unstuffing, the container must be meticulously cleaned, deodorized, and aired out. Heavy-grade detergent is recommended for internal washing if leakage occurs.

### Compliance and Liability:

Shipping lines, including FOLK Maritime, will recover costs from the shipper for rectifying problems arising from non-compliance with these guidelines.

### Conclusion:

FOLK Maritime reserves the right to decline carriage of hides not conforming to these procedures. In certain cases, FOLK Maritime may provide pre-lined and prepared containers. It's essential to consult with FOLK Maritime representatives for any deviations from standard procedures, especially for "Wet Blue" hides which may have specific considerations.

These Guidelines are designed to increase awareness and ensure the safe, efficient, and compliant transport of hides, reinforcing FOLK Maritime's dedication to excellence in maritime logistics.

For further assistance or inquiries, please contact FOLK Maritime customer service at [CS@folkmaritime.com](mailto:CS@folkmaritime.com).

**Disclaimer:** The information contained in this document is general. It was created for clarification and guidance purposes with no guarantee of completeness or accuracy of this information. This Guidelines document does not include commitments on Folk Maritime and shall not be considered a part of an agreement between the parties. Folk Maritime may update or change these guidelines from time to time at its sole discretion. Under no circumstances shall Folk Maritime or its affiliates, suppliers, agents, employees, representatives be liable for any direct, indirect, or consequential damages arising out of the use of the information in these Guidelines.