1. DEFINITIONS
The following definitions shall apply in this Bill of Lading:
Carrier: means WEC LINES ESPAÑA, S.L.U.
COGSA: means the U.S. Carriage of Goods by Sea Act, 1936.
Combined Transport: arises if the Carrier has indicated a Place of Receipt and/or a Place of Delivery on the front hereof in the relevant spaces. Combined Transport consists of a Port-to-Port carriage and Inland Transport.
Container: includes any container, trailer, transportable tank, flat or pallet, or any similar article used to consolidate Goods and any connected or accessory equipment.
Freight: includes the freight and all charges, costs and expenses whatsoever payable to the Carrier in accordance with the applicable Tariff and this Bill of Lading, including storage, per diem and demurrage.
Goods: includes the whole or any part of the cargo carried under this Bill of Lading, including any packing or packaging materials and Merchant owned or leased Containers.
Hague Rules: means the provisions of the International Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules relating to Bills of Lading signed at Brussels on 25 August 1924 with the express exclusion of Article 10.
Hague–Visby Rules: means the provisions of The Hague Rules 1924 as Amended by the Protocol adopted at Brussels on 23 February 1968, and 21st December 1979 (SDR Protocol) where applicable. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein it is expressly agreed that nothing herein shall contractually apply the Hague-Visby Rules to this Bill of Lading and they shall apply only when compulsorily applicable by the law governing this Bill of Lading.
Inland Transport: means carriage during Combined Transport other than between the Port of Loading and the Port of Discharge.
Merchant: includes the Shipper, Consignee, holder of this Bill of Lading, the receiver of the Goods and any Person owning, entitled to or claiming the possession of the Goods or of this Bill of Lading or anyone acting on behalf of this Person.
Person: includes an individual, corporation, company or any other legal entity.
Place of Delivery: means the place at which the Carrier has contracted to deliver the Goods, when such place is other than the Port of Discharge.
Place of Receipt: means the place at which the Carrier has contracted to receive the Goods, when such place is other than the Port of Loading.
Pomerene Act: means the United States Federal Bill of Lading Act, 1916 49 U.S.C. 801 or any amendments thereto.
Port-to-Port carriage: means carriage between the Port of Loading and the Port of Discharge.
Subcontractor: includes but is not limited to the owners, charterers and operators of the Vessel(s) other than the Carrier, as well as stevedores, terminals and groupage operators, road and rail transport operators, warehousemen and any independent contractors employed by the Carrier performing the carriage, and direct or indirect Subcontractors, servants and agents thereof, whether in direct contractual privity or not.
Vessel: includes the vessel named herein or any substituted vessel, feeder vessel, lighter or other watercraft utilized by the Carrier for carriage by sea.

2. CONTRACTING PARTIES AND WARRANTY
The contract evidenced by this Bill of Lading is between the Carrier and the Merchant. Every Person defined as "Merchant" is jointly and severally liable towards the Carrier for all the various undertakings, responsibilities and liabilities of the Merchant under or in connection with this Bill of Lading and to pay the Freight due under it without deduction or set-off. The Merchant warrants that in agreeing to the terms and conditions in this Bill of Lading, he is the owner of the Goods or he does so with the authority of the owner of the Goods or of the Person entitled to the possession of the Goods or of this Bill of Lading.

3. CARRIER'S TARIFF
The terms and conditions of the Carrier's applicable Tariff are incorporated into this Bill of Lading. Particular attention is drawn to terms and conditions concerning additional charges including demurrage, per diem, storage expenses and legal fees, etc. A copy of the applicable Tariff can be obtained from the Carrier or its agent upon request and the Merchant is deemed to know and accept such Tariff. In the case of any conflict or inconsistency between this Bill of Lading and the applicable Tariff, it is agreed that this Bill of Lading shall prevail.

4. SUBCONTRACTING AND INDEMNITY
4.1 The Carrier shall be entitled to sub-contract on any terms whatsoever the whole or any part of the carriage, including liberty to further sub-contract.
4.2 The Merchant undertakes that no claim or allegation whether arising in contract, bailment, tort or otherwise shall be made against any servant, agent, or Subcontractor of the Carrier which imposes or attempts to impose upon any of them or any Vessel owned or chartered by any of them any liability whatsoever in connection with the Goods or the carriage of the Goods whether or not arising out of negligence on the part of such Person. If any such claim or allegation should nevertheless be made, the Merchant agrees to indemnify the Carrier against all consequences thereof. Without prejudice to the foregoing, every such servant, agent and Subcontractor shall have the benefit of all terms and conditions of whatsoever nature contained herein or otherwise benefiting the Carrier under this Bill of Lading, as if such terms and conditions were expressly for their benefit. In entering into this contract, the Carrier, to the extent of such terms and conditions, does so on its own behalf and also as agent and trustee for such servants, agents and Subcontractors.
4.3 The provisions of clause 4.2, including but not limited to the undertaking of the Merchant contained therein, shall extend to all claims or allegations of whatsoever nature against other Persons chartering space on the Vessel.
4.4 The Merchant further undertakes that no claim or allegation in respect of the Goods shall be made against the Carrier by any Person which imposes or attempts to impose upon the Carrier any liability whatsoever in connection with the Goods or the carriage of the Goods other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Bill of Lading, whether or not arising out of negligence or misdelivery on the part of the Carrier, and if any such claim or allegation should nevertheless be made, to indemnify the Carrier against all consequences thereof.

5. CARRIER'S RESPONSIBILITY
5.1 Port-to-Port carriage – If carriage under this Bill of Lading is Port-to-Port:
(a) The period of responsibility of the Carrier for any loss of or damage to the Goods shall commence only after the moment that the Goods are loaded on board the Vessel and shall end when the Goods have been discharged from the Vessel.
(b) This Bill of Lading shall be subject to the Hague Rules unless the governing law makes the Hague or the Hague-Visby Rules compulsorily applicable in which case the said Hague or Hague-Visby Rules will apply to this Bill of Lading only to the extent that they are compulsorily applicable.
(c) Notwithstanding the above, in case and to the extent that the governing law, or a contractual arrangement, or custom and practice, or any court or tribunal decision extends the Carrier's period of responsibility whether in contract, tort, bailment or otherwise to all or any part of the period before loading, or the period after discharge, including for misdelivery, then Carrier shall have the benefit of every right, defence, immunity, limitation and liberty provided for in the Hague Rules during such additional period of responsibility, notwithstanding that the loss, damage or misdelivery did not occur during the carriage by sea.
5.2 Combined Transport – The Carrier's liability for Combined Transport shall be as follows:
5.2.1 Where the loss or damage occurred during the Port-to-Port section of the carriage, the liability of the Carrier is in accordance with clause 5.1 above.
5.2.2 Where the loss or damage occurred during Inland Transport, the liability of the Carrier shall be determined:
(a) by the provisions contained in any international convention, national law or regulation applicable to the means of transport utilized, if such convention, national law or regulation would have been compulsorily applicable in the case where a separate contract had been made in respect to the particular stage of transport concerned, or
(b) where no international convention, national law or regulation would have been compulsorily applicable, by the contract of carriage issued by the Subcontractor carrier for that stage of transport, including any limitations and exceptions contained therein, which contract the Merchant and the Carrier adopt and incorporate by reference, it being agreed that the Carrier's rights and liabilities shall be the same as those of the Subcontractor carrier, but in no event whatsoever shall the Carrier's liability exceed GBP 100 sterling legal tender per package, or
(c) if any court shall determine that no international convention, national law or regulation would have been compulsorily applicable and that the Carrier may not determine its liability, if any, by reference to the applicable Subcontractor's contract of carriage or where said Subcontractor carrier does not have a contract of carriage, then it is contractually agreed as between the Merchant and the Carrier that the Carrier's liability shall be determined as if the loss and/or damage complained of occurred during the Port-to-Port section of carriage as provided at 5.1 above, but in no event whatsoever shall the Carrier's liability exceed GBP 100 sterling legal tender per package.
(d) If the place of loss or damage cannot be established by the Merchant, then the loss or damage shall be presumed to have occurred during the Port-to-Port section of carriage and the Carrier's liability shall be determined as provided at 5.1 above.
5.2.3 Any transport that the Carrier arranges for the Merchant which is not part of the carriage under this Bill of Lading is done under the Merchant's own responsibility, time, risk and expense and the Carrier acts as agent only for the Merchant.
5.3 Delivery to Customs or Port Authorities – Where any law or regulation applicable at the Port of Discharge or Place of Delivery provides that delivery of the Goods to the Merchant shall or may be effected by the customs or port authorities at the Port of Discharge or Place of Delivery, notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, delivery of the Goods by the Carrier to such customs or port authorities shall be deemed to be lawful delivery of the Goods by the Carrier to the Merchant and the Carrier shall not be liable for any loss of or damage to the Goods which occurs for any reason whatsoever after delivery of the Goods by the Carrier to the customs or port authorities.

6. U.S. TRADE CLAUSE
6.1 Notwithstanding the provisions of clause 5, for carriage to or from any port of the United States, its territories or possessions, or if suit is brought in the United States, this Bill of Lading shall have effect subject to the provisions of the COGSA and to the provisions of the Pomerene Act regardless of whether said Act would apply of its own force. The provisions of the COGSA are incorporated herein and save as otherwise provided herein shall apply throughout the entire time the Goods are in the Carrier's custody, including before loading and after discharge as long as the Goods remain in the custody of the Carrier or its Subcontractors, including cargo carried on deck. Nothing contained herein is to be deemed a surrender by the Carrier of its rights, immunities, exemptions or limitations or an increase of any of its responsibilities or liabilities under the COGSA. Except for clause 5, every other term, condition, limitation, defence and liberty whatsoever contained in this Bill of Lading shall apply to carriage in the US Trades.
6.2 For limitation purposes under the GOGSA, it is agreed that the meaning of the word "package" shall be any palletised and/or unitised assembled of cartons which has been palletised and/or unitised for the convenience of the Merchant, regardless of whether said pallet or unit is disclosed on the front hereof.

7. AFRICA CLAUSE
In case of carriage to or from the continent of Africa, the responsibility of the carrier prior to loading on or after discharge from the vessel at a port in the continent of Africa shall be determined by the provisions of 5.1 above, notwithstanding any other provisions to the contrary in this Bill of Lading.

8. COMPENSATION AND LIABILITY PROVISIONS
8.1 Subject always to the Carrier's right to limit liability as provided for herein, if the Carrier is liable for compensation in respect of loss of or damage to the Goods, such compensation shall be calculated by reference to the invoice value of the Goods, plus Freight and insurance if paid. If there is no invoice value of the Goods or if any such invoice is not bona fide, such compensation shall be calculated by reference to the market value of such Goods at the place and time they are delivered or should have been delivered to the Merchant. The market value of the Goods shall be fixed according to the current market price, by reference to the normal value of goods of the same kind and/or quality.
8.2 Save as is provided in clause 8.3:
8.2.1 (a) if and to the extent the Hague Rules or Hague-Visby Rules are compulsorily applicable to this Bill of Lading by virtue of clauses 5.1, 5.2.1 or 5.2.2 (c) or (d) or otherwise, the Carrier's liability for breaches or wrongs occurring during such period of compulsory application shall in no event whatsoever exceed the amounts provided in the Hague Rules or Hague-Visby Rules, whichever are compulsorily applicable.
(b) If and to the extent the Hague Rules apply only contractually pursuant to clause 5, the Carrier's maximum liability shall in no event whatsoever exceed GBP 100 sterling lawful currency per package or unit.
8.2.2 Where COGSA applies by virtue of clause 6, neither the Carrier nor the Vessel shall in any event be or become liable in an amount exceeding US$500 per package or per customary freight unit.
8.3 The Merchant agrees and acknowledges that the Carrier has no knowledge of the value of the Goods. Higher compensation than that provided for in this Bill of Lading may be claimed only when, with the written confirmation of the Carrier, the value of the Goods declared by the Shipper upon delivery to the Carrier has been stated by the Carrier in the box marked "Declared Value" on the front of this Bill of Lading and ad valorem charges paid. In that case, the amount of the Declared Value shall be substituted for the limits provided in this Bill of Lading. Any partial loss or damage shall be adjusted pro rata on the basis of such Declared Value.
8.4 Nothing in this Bill of Lading shall operate to limit or deprive the Carrier of any statutory protection, defence, exemption or limitation of liability authorised by any applicable laws, statutes or regulations of any country or which would have been applicable in the absence of any of the terms set out in this Bill of Lading. The Carrier shall have the benefit of the said laws, statutes or regulations as if it were the owner of the Vessel.
8.5 When any claim is paid by the Carrier to the Merchant, the Carrier shall be automatically subrogated to all rights of the Merchant against any third party. The Merchant shall sign a subrogation receipt, release and indemnity immediately when requested by the Carrier.

9. SCOPE OF VOYAGE, DELAY, CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES
The scope of voyage herein contracted for may or may not include usual or customary or advertised ports of call whether named in this Bill of Lading contract or not and may include transport of the Goods to or from any facilities used by the Carrier as part of the carriage, including but not limited to off-dock storage. The Carrier does not promise or undertake to load, carry or discharge the Goods on or by any particular Vessel, date or time. Advertised sailings and arrivals are only estimated times, and such schedules may be advanced, delayed or cancelled without notice. In no event shall the Carrier be liable for consequential damages or for any delay in scheduled departures or arrivals of any Vessel or other conveyances used to transport the Goods by sea or otherwise. If the Carrier should nevertheless be held legally liable for any such direct or indirect or consequential loss or damage caused by such alleged delay, such liability shall in no event exceed the Freight paid for the carriage.

10. METHODS AND ROUTES OF CARRIAGE
10.1 The Carrier may at any time and without notice to the Merchant:
(a) use any means of transport or storage whatsoever;
(b) transfer the Goods from one conveyance to another including transhipping or carrying the Goods on a Vessel other than the Vessel named on the front hereof or by any other means of transport whatsoever, even though transhipment or forwarding of the Goods by such means may not have been contemplated or provided for herein;
(c) sail without pilots, proceed via any route (whether or not the nearest or most direct or customary or advertised route) at any speed and proceed to, return to and stay at any port or place whatsoever (including the Port of Loading herein provided) once or more often, and in any order in or out of the route or in a contrary direction to or beyond the Port of Discharge once or more often;
(d) load and unload the Goods at any place or port (whether or not any such port is named on the front hereof as the Port of Loading or Port of Discharge) and store the Goods at any such port or place, including but not limited to the use of off-dock storage at any port;
(e) comply with any orders or recommendations given by any government or authority or any Person or body purporting to act as or on behalf of such government or authority or having under the terms of the insurance on any conveyance employed by the Carrier the right to give orders or directions.
10.2 The liberties set out in clause 10.1 may be invoked by the Carrier for any purpose whatsoever whether or not connected with the carriage of the Goods, including but not limited to loading or unloading other goods, bunkering or embarking or disembarking any Person(s), undergoing repairs and/or drydocking, towing or being towed, assisting other vessels, making trial trips and adjusting instruments. Anything done or not done in accordance with clause 10.1 or any delay arising therefrom shall be deemed to be within the contractual carriage and shall not be a deviation.

11. NOTICE OF CLAIMS, TIME BAR AND JURISDICTION
11.1 Notice - of loss or damage to Goods shall be given in writing to the Carrier or its agent at the Port of Discharge before or at the time of delivery. If the loss or damage is not apparent before or at the time of delivery, notice must be given within three (3) days of delivery to the Merchant or its agent. Claims shall be submitted in writing addressed by the Merchant to the Carrier's agent at the Port of Discharge.
11.2 Time bar – In any event, the Carrier shall be discharged from all liability if suit is not commenced within one (1) year after delivery of the Goods or the date that the Goods should have been delivered for claims related to loss or damage during the Port-to-Port carriage, and for claims related to loss or damage during Inland Transport the shorter of nine (9) months or any time limit provided for by any applicable international convention, national law, regulation or contract by virtue of clauses 5.2.2 (a) or (b).
11.3 Jurisdiction - It is hereby specifically agreed that any suit by the Merchant, and save as additionally provided below any suit by the Carrier, shall be filed exclusively in the High Court of London and English Law shall exclusively apply, unless the carriage contracted for hereunder was to or from the United States of America, in which case suit shall be filed exclusively in the United States District Court, for the Southern District of New York and U.S. law shall exclusively apply. The Merchant agrees that it shall not institute suit in any other court and agrees to be responsible for the reasonable legal expenses and costs of the Carrier in removing a suit filed in another forum. The Merchant waives any objection to the personal jurisdiction over the Merchant of the above agreed fora.
In the case of any dispute relating to Freight or other sums due from the Merchant to the Carrier, the Carrier may, at its sole option, bring suit against the Merchant in the fora agreed above, or in the countries of the Port of Loading, Port of Discharge, Place of Delivery or in any jurisdiction where the Merchant has a place of business.

12. MERCHANT-PACKED CONTAINERS
If a Container has not been packed by or on behalf of the Carrier:
12.1 The Merchant shall inspect the Container for suitability for carriage of the Goods before packing it. The Merchant's use of the Container shall be prima facie evidence of its being sound and suitable for use.
12.2 The Carrier shall not be liable for loss of or damage to the Goods caused by:
(a) the manner in which the Goods have been packed, stowed, stuffed or secured in the Container, or
(b) the unsuitability of the Goods for carriage in the Container supplied or for carriage by Container between the Ports or Places specified herein, or
(c) the unsuitability or defective condition of the Container or the incorrect setting of any refrigeration controls thereof, provided that, if the Container has been supplied by or on behalf of the Carrier, this unsuitability or defective condition would have been apparent upon inspection by the Merchant at or prior to the time when the Container was packed, or
(d) packing refrigerated Goods that are not properly pre-cooled to the correct temperature for carriage or before the refrigerated Container has been properly pre-cooled to the correct carrying temperature.
12.3 The Merchant is responsible for the packing and sealing of all Merchant-packed Containers and, if a Merchant-packed Container is delivered by the Carrier with an original seal as affixed by the Merchant or customs or security control intact, or the Carrier can establish bona fide circumstances that the original seal was replaced, the Carrier shall not be liable for any shortage of Goods ascertained upon delivery.
12.4 The Merchant shall indemnify the Carrier against any loss, damage, liability or expense whatsoever and howsoever arising caused by one or more of the matters referred to in clause 12.2, including but not limited to damage to Container, other cargo and the Vessel.

13. REFRIGERATION, HEATING, INSULATION
13.1 Special Containers with refrigeration, heating or insulation shall not be furnished unless contracted for on the front of this Bill of Lading and extra Freight paid. If a carrying temperature is noted on the front of this Bill of Lading, the Merchant shall deliver the Goods to the Carrier at plus or minus 2 degrees Celsius from the noted temperature, and the Carrier shall assume due diligence to maintain such supply air temperature, plus or minus 2 degrees Celsius while the Goods are in its possession. IT IS THE MERCHANT'S OBLIGATION TO SET AND/OR CHECK THAT THE TEMPERATURE CONTROLS ON THE CONTAINER ARE AT THE REQUIRED CARRYING TEMPERATURE AND TO PROPERLY SET THE VENTS. The Carrier does not undertake to deliver empty refrigerated Containers to the Merchant at any specific temperature. The Carrier has the right but not the obligation to refuse to accept any Container loaded by the Merchant for shipment where the Goods are not or were not loaded into the Container within plus or minus 2 degrees Celsius of the contracted carrying temperature.
13.2 The Merchant must take note that refrigerated Containers are not designed:
(a) to cool or freeze Goods which have been loaded into a Container at a temperature higher than their designated carrying temperature. The Carrier shall not be responsible for the consequences of the Goods being loaded at a higher temperature than that required for the carriage; nor
(b) to monitor and control humidity levels, even if a setting facility exists, and because humidity is influenced by many external factors the Carrier does not guarantee and is not responsible for the maintenance of any intended level of humidity inside any Container.
13.3 The Carrier shall not be liable for any loss or damage to the Goods arising from latent defects, breakdown, defrosting, stoppage of the refrigerating or any other specialised machinery, plant, insulation and/or apparatus of the Container and any other facilities, provided that the Carrier exercised due diligence before releasing the empty Container to the Shipper.
13.4 The Carrier does not warrant refrigeration or heating machinery, but shall exercise due diligence to maintain any machinery while in the actual possession of the Carrier. The Carrier will not accept responsibility for the recording of temperatures in any form other than any reefer log book maintained on board the Vessel. The Carrier does not accept to comply with any governmental program or protocol unless noted on the front hereof and additional Freight is paid.

14. INSPECTION OF GOODS AND SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES
Inspection - The Carrier shall be entitled, but shall be under no obligation, to open and/or scan any package or Container at any time and to inspect, verify and weigh the contents without notice to the Merchant.
Special circumstances - If it appears at any time that the Goods cannot safely or properly be carried or carried further, either at all or without incurring any additional expense or taking any measures in relation to the Container or the Goods, the Carrier may without notice to the Merchant (but as his agent only) take any measures and/or incur any reasonable additional expense to carry or to continue the carriage of the Goods, and/or to sell or dispose of them and/or to abandon the carriage and/or to store them ashore or afloat, upon the terms and conditions of this Bill of Lading and endeavour to forward them as soon as possible, but the Carrier makes no representations as to the maximum period of suspension; or
(a) carry the Goods to the contracted Port of Discharge or Place of Delivery, whichever is applicable, by an alternative route to that indicated in this Bill of Lading or that which is usual for Goods consigned to that Port of Discharge or Place of Delivery; or
(b) suspend the carriage of the Goods and store them ashore or afloat upon the terms and conditions of this Bill of Lading and endeavour to forward them as soon as possible, but the Carrier makes no representations as to the maximum period of suspension; or
(c) abandon the carriage of the Goods and place them at the Merchant's disposal at any place or port which the Carrier may deem safe and convenient, or from which the Carrier is unable by the exercise of reasonable endeavours to continue the carriage, whereupon the responsibility of the Carrier in respect of such Goods shall cease. The Carrier shall nevertheless be entitled to full Freight on the Goods received for the carriage, and the Merchant shall pay any additional costs incurred by reason of the abandonment of the Goods. If the Carrier elects to use an alternative route under clause 20.1 (a) or to suspend the carriage under clause 20.1 (b) this shall not prejudice its right subsequently to abandon the carriage.
20.2 If the Carrier elects to invoke the terms of this clause 20, then notwithstanding the provisions of clause 10, the Carrier shall be entitled to such additional Freight and costs as the Carrier may determine.

15. DESCRIPTION OF GOODS AND MERCHANT'S RESPONSIBILITY
15.1 This Bill of Lading shall be prima facie evidence of the receipt by the Carrier in apparent good order and condition, except as otherwise noted, of the total number of Containers or other packages or units indicated in the box entitled "Carriers Receipt" on the front hereof.
15.2 No representation is made by the Carrier as to the weight, contents, measure, quantity, quality, description, condition, temperature, marks, numbers or value of the Goods and the Carrier shall be under no responsibility whatsoever in respect of such description or particulars.
15.3 The Merchant warrants to the Carrier that the particulars relating to the Goods as set out on the front hereof have been checked by or on behalf of the Merchant on receipt of this Bill of Lading and that such particulars, and any other particulars furnished by or on behalf of the Merchant, are adequate and correct. The Merchant warrants that the Goods are safely and securely packed in the Container.
15.4 The Merchant also warrants that the Goods and/or Merchant-packed Containers are lawful Goods, contain no contraband, drugs, other illegal substances or stowaways, and that any hazardous or potentially dangerous characteristics of the Goods have been fully disclosed by or on behalf of the Merchant and that they will not cause loss, damage or expense to the Carrier, or to any other cargo, Containers, Vessel or Person during the carriage.
15.5 If any particulars of any bill of credit and/or import license and/or sales contract and/or invoice or order number and/or details of any contract to which the Carrier is not a party are shown on the front hereof, such particulars are shown at the sole risk of the Merchant and for his convenience. The Merchant agrees that such particulars shall not be regarded as a declaration of value and shall in no circumstances whatsoever increase the Carrier's liability under this Bill of Lading, and the Merchant agrees to indemnify the Carrier for any increased liability so caused, including reasonable legal expenses and costs.
15.6 The Merchant shall comply with all regulations or requirements of customs, port and other authorities, and shall bear and pay all duties, taxes, fines, imposts, expenses or losses (including, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing Freight for any additional carriage undertaken), incurred or suffered by reason thereof, or by reason of any illegal, incorrect or insufficient declaration, marking, numbering or addressing of the Goods, and shall indemnify the Carrier in respect thereof, including reasonable legal expenses and costs.
15.7 If by order of the authorities any package is opened, detained and/or seized and/or a Container has to be opened for the Goods to be inspected for any reason whatsoever, including but not limited to for a breach or infringement of a trademark, patent or other intellectual property right, the Carrier will not be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever incurred as a result of any opening, unpacking, inspection, re-packing, detention, destruction or delay. The Carrier shall be entitled to recover from the Merchant all charges, fines, costs, losses and expenses, including reasonable legal expenses and costs resulting from such events, including but not limited to detention, demurrage and storage charges for the Goods and/or the Container.
15.8 The Carrier allows a period of free time for the use of the Containers and other equipment in accordance with the Tariff and as advised by the local WEC Lines agent at the Ports of Loading and Discharge. Free time commences from the day the Container and other equipment is collected by the Merchant or is discharged from the Vessel or is delivered to the Place of Delivery as the case may be. The Merchant is required and has the responsibility to return to a place nominated by the Carrier the Container and other equipment before or at the end of the free time allowed at the Port of Discharge or the Place of Delivery. Demurrage, per diem and detention charges will be levied and payable by the Merchant thereafter in accordance with the Tariff.
15.9 The Merchant shall redeliver, to a place nominated by the Carrier, the Containers and other equipment in like good order and condition, undamaged, empty, odour free, cleaned and with all fittings installed by the Merchant removed and without any rubbish, dunnage or other debris inside. The Merchant shall be liable to indemnify the Carrier for any and all costs incurred reinstating or replacing Containers and other equipment not returned in the condition as specified above, including the reasonable legal expenses and costs of recovering the costs incurred and interest thereon.

16. DANGEROUS OR HAZARDOUS GOODS
16.1 The Carrier will not accept any Goods of a dangerous or hazardous nature without prior written notice of the full and true particulars and the Carrier's written approval to carry them.
When the Merchant delivers Goods of a dangerous or hazardous nature to the Carrier, the Merchant shall fully inform the Carrier in writing of the precise and accurate details of the Goods, and special precautions or handling required for the Goods. Such Goods shall be distinctly marked on the outside of the Container as well as on the outside of the packaging inside the Container so as to indicate the nature thereof and the marking must comply with the requirements of any applicable regulations, including regulations contained in any relevant international treaty or convention.
16.2 The Merchant shall be fully liable for and shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the Carrier, its servants, agents and subcontractors and any third party for all loss, damage, delay, personal injury, death or expenses including fines and penalties, and all reasonable legal expenses and costs caused to the Carrier, the Vessel, any cargo, and other property, whether on board or ashore, arising from such Goods and/or from the breach of clause 16.1, whether or not the Merchant was aware of the nature of such Goods.
16.3 Nothing contained in this clause shall deprive the Carrier of any of its rights provided for elsewhere.

17. FREIGHT AND CHARGES
17.1 Freight has been calculated on the basis of the Shipper's particulars and if such particulars are found to be erroneous and additional Freight is payable, the Merchant shall be liable therefor and also for any expense thereby incurred.
17.2 All Freight is earned and due upon receipt of the Goods by the Carrier, whether the Freight is prepaid or collect and the Carrier shall be entitled to all Freight due under all circumstances, ship and/or cargo lost or not lost or the voyage abandoned. All Freight shall be paid when due without any set-off, counter claim, or deduction.
17.3 Every Person defined as "Merchant" in clause 1 shall be jointly and severally liable to the Carrier for the payment of all Freight and charges and for the performance of the obligations of each of them hereunder. Any Person engaged by the Merchant to perform forwarding services with respect to the Goods shall be considered to be exclusively the Merchant's agent for all purposes, and any payment of Freight to such Person shall not be considered payment to the Carrier in any event whatsoever. Failure of such third parties to pay any part of the Freight to the Carrier shall be considered a default by the Merchant in the payment of Freight.

18. CARRIER'S LIEN
THE CARRIER, ITS SERVANTS OR AGENTS SHALL HAVE A LIEN ON THE GOODS AND ANY DOCUMENT RELATING THERETO FOR FREIGHT AND FOR GENERAL AVERAGE CONTRIBUTIONS TO WHOMSOEVER DUE. THE CARRIER, ITS SERVANTS OR AGENTS SHALL ALSO HAVE A LIEN AGAINST THE MERCHANT ON THE GOODS AND ANY DOCUMENT RELATING THERETO FOR ALL SUMS DUE FROM THE MERCHANT TO THE CARRIER UNDER ANY OTHER CONTRACT. The Carrier may exercise its lien at any time and any place in its sole discretion, through the action of any servant, agent or Subcontractor, whether the contractual carriage is completed or not. The Carrier's lien shall also extend to cover the cost and legal expense of recovering any sums due. The Carrier shall have the right to sell any Goods liened by public auction or private treaty, without notice to the Merchant. Nothing herein shall prevent the Carrier from recovering from the Merchant the difference between the amount due to the Carrier and the net amount realised by such sale.

19. OPTIONAL STOWAGE, DECK CARGO AND LIVESTOCK
19.1 Goods, whether packed in Containers or not, may be carried on deck or under deck without notice to the Merchant unless it is specifically stipulated on the front hereof that the Containers or Goods will be carried under deck. If carried on deck, the Carrier shall not be required to note, mark or stamp on the Bill of Lading any statement of such on-deck carriage. Save as provided in clause 19.2 such Goods (except livestock) carried on or under deck and whether or not stated to be carried on deck shall participate in general average and shall be deemed to be within the definition of Goods for the purpose of the Hague Rules or the COGSA or any compulsorily applicable legislation and shall be carried subject to such Rules or Act, whichever is applicable.
19.2. Goods which are out of gauge and/or are stowed on or in open top containers, flatracks or platforms, and which are stated on the front hereof to be carried on deck, and all livestock whether carried on deck or under deck, are carried without any responsibility whatsoever on the part of the Carrier for loss or damage of whatsoever nature or delay arising during the carriage whether caused by unseaworthiness or negligence or any other cause whatsoever and the Hague Rules or the COGSA shall not apply.

20. MATTERS ADVERSELY AFFECTING CARRIER'S PERFORMANCE
20.1 If at any time the carriage is or is likely to be affected by any hindrance, risk, danger, delay, difficulty or disadvantage of whatsoever kind and howsoever arising which cannot be avoided by the Carrier by the exercise of reasonable endeavours, (even though the circumstances giving rise to such hindrance, risk, danger, delay, difficulty or disadvantage existed at the time this contract was entered into or the Goods were received for the carriage) the Carrier may at its sole discretion and without notice to the Merchant and whether or not the carriage is commenced either:
(a) carry the Goods to the contracted Port of Discharge or Place of Delivery, whichever is applicable, by an alternative route to that indicated in this Bill of Lading or that which is usual for Goods consigned to that Port of Discharge or Place of Delivery; or
(b) suspend the carriage of the Goods and store them ashore or afloat upon the terms and conditions of this Bill of Lading and endeavour to forward them as soon as possible, but the Carrier makes no representations as to the maximum period of suspension; or
(c) abandon the carriage of the Goods and place them at the Merchant's disposal at any place or port which the Carrier may deem safe and convenient, or from which the Carrier is unable by the exercise of reasonable endeavours to continue the carriage, whereupon the responsibility of the Carrier in respect of such Goods shall cease. The Carrier shall nevertheless be entitled to full Freight on the Goods received for the carriage, and the Merchant shall pay any additional costs incurred by reason of the abandonment of the Goods. If the Carrier elects to use an alternative route under clause 20.1 (a) or to suspend the carriage under clause 20.1 (b) this shall not prejudice its right subsequently to abandon the carriage.
20.2 If the Carrier elects to invoke the terms of this clause 20, then notwithstanding the provisions of clause 10, the Carrier shall be entitled to such additional Freight and costs as the Carrier may determine.

21. NOTIFICATION AND DELIVERY
21.1 Any mention in this Bill of Lading of parties to be notified of the arrival of the Goods is solely for information of the Carrier. Failure to give such notification shall not subject the Carrier to any liability nor relieve the Merchant of any obligation hereunder.
21.2 The Merchant shall take delivery of the Goods within the time provided for in the Carrier's applicable Tariff or as otherwise agreed. If the Merchant fails to do so, the Carrier may without notice unpack the Goods if packed in Containers and/or store the Goods ashore, afloat, in the open or under cover at the sole risk of the Merchant. Such storage shall constitute due delivery hereunder, and thereupon all liability whatsoever of the Carrier in respect of the Goods, including for misdelivery or non-delivery, shall cease and the costs of such storage shall forthwith upon demand be paid by the Merchant to the Carrier.
21.3 If the Goods are unclaimed within a reasonable time or whenever in the Carrier's opinion the Goods are likely to deteriorate, decay or become worthless, or incur charges in excess of their value or otherwise in excess of their value, the Carrier may at its discretion and without prejudice to any other rights which it may have against the Merchant, without notice and without any responsibility attaching to it, sell, abandon or otherwise dispose of the Goods at the sole risk and expense of the Merchant and without liability whatsoever in reduction of the sums due to the Carrier from the Merchant under or in connection with this Bill of Lading.
21.4 Refusal by the Merchant to take delivery of the Goods in accordance with the terms of this clause shall entitle the Carrier to dump any Goods or damage thereto shall constitute an absolute waiver and abandonment by the Merchant to the Carrier of any claim whatsoever relating to the Goods or the carriage thereof. The Carrier shall be entitled to an indemnity from the Merchant for all costs thereby incurred, including legal costs, for the cleaning and disposal of Goods refused and/or abandoned by the Merchant.

22. BOTH TO BLAME COLLISION CLAUSE
If the Vessel comes into collision with another ship as a result of the negligence of the other ship and any act, neglect or default of the master, mariner, pilot or the servants of the Carrier in the navigation or in the management of the Vessel, the owners of the Goods carried hereunder will indemnify the Carrier against all loss or liability to the other or non-carrying ship or her owners in so far as such loss or liability represents loss of, or damage to, or any claim whatsoever of the owners of said Goods, paid or payable by the other or non-carrying ship or her owners to the owners of said Goods and set-off, recouped or recovered by the other or non-carrying ship or her owners as part of their claim against the Vessel or Carrier. The foregoing provisions shall also apply where the owners, operators or those in charge of any ship or ships or objects other than, or in addition to, the colliding ships or objects are at fault in respect of a collision or contact.

23. GENERAL AVERAGE AND SALVAGE
General Average shall be adjusted, stated and settled at any port or place at the Carrier's option according to York - Antwerp Rules 1994 except Rule XXII and, as to matters not therein provided for, according to the laws and usages at any port or place at the Carrier's option, save that General Average on a Vessel not bareboat chartered by the Carrier shall be adjusted according to the requirements of the owner or operator of that Vessel. Average agreement or bond and such cash deposit (payable at Carrier's option in United Stated Currency) as the Carrier may require as additional security for the contribution of the Goods and salvage and special charges thereon, shall be furnished before delivery or forwarding.
In the event of accident, danger, damage or disaster, before or after commencement of the voyage resulting from any cause whatsoever, whether due to negligence or not, for which, or for the consequence of which, the Carrier is not responsible by statute, contract, or otherwise, the Goods and the Merchant shall, jointly and severally, contribute with the Carrier in General Average to the payment of any sacrifices, losses, or expenses of a General Average nature that may be made or incurred, and shall pay salvage and special charges incurred in respect of the Goods, as determined by an independent General Average adjuster duly appointed by the Carrier, and his determination as to liability for General Average contribution and his computation for the same shall be final and binding on all parties to the venture. If a salving ship is owned or operated by the Carrier, salvage shall be paid for as fully and in the same manner as if such salvaging ship or ships belonged to strangers. Such deposit as the Carrier or its agents may deem sufficient to cover the estimated contribution of the goods and any salvage and special charges thereon shall, if required, be made by the Goods, Shippers, Consignees or owners of the Goods to the Carrier before delivery.

24. SEPARABILITY AND VARIATION OF TERMS, FINAL CONTRACT
The terms of this Bill of Lading shall be separable and, if any term or provison hereof or any part of any term or provision shall be invalid to any extent, it shall be invalid to that extent, but no further and such circumstance shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other term or provision hereof. This Bill of Lading is the final contract between the parties which supersedes any prior agreement or understanding, whether in writing or verbal, save where this Bill of Lading has been issued pursuant to another contract between the Merchant and the Carrier, when such other contract and this Bill of Lading shall be construed together. This Bill of Lading and its terms and conditions may not be changed orally.