



**Espace Métiers**  
**TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS**  
**International Logistics**  
**Level: Intermediate**

**Requesting An Update On A Container Shipment\*\***

Source: Business English Skills Test – Transport & Logistics  
Franco-British Chamber of Commerce & Industry



**Words/expressions translated alongside the text**

Lee: Hello, China Shipping, Lee Dogwhan speaking.

Juinhu: Hello Lee, this is Juinhu at Universal Freight. **Have you got an update on that container that was short-shipped** last week in Singapore?

Lee: I'm sorry, I was **on leave** last week, so I haven't followed that incident. What happened please?

Juinhu: It's a container from Europe, Rotterdam I think, that is **destined for** Tokyo. **It should have transhipped in** Singapore, **along with** several hundred others and **it somehow got missed** and **didn't load on** the Colombo Princess to continue its voyage.

Lee: I see, so it should have loaded on the Durban Countess yesterday, is that it?

Juinhu: Exactly, but I can't see it on the **tracking facility** on your website, which is why I am calling.

Lee: Have you got the container number, please?

Juinhu: Yes, it's CHNU 488 965-3

Lee: Thanks, now just a minute...let me see...ok, that's it, yes, **it has shipped** and the vessel left last night. ETA Tokyo on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

Juinhu: That's good news, then. Thanks for your help.

Lee: You're welcome, goodbye.

Juinhu: Goodbye.

**have you got an update on that container that was short-shipped ...** -  
*avez-vous de nouvelles informations sur le conteneur qui n'a pas été expédié comme prévu ...*

**on leave** – *en congés*

**destined for** – *destine à*

**it should have transhipped in** – *il aurait dû être transbordé à ...*

**along with** – *avec*

**it somehow got missed** – *on a dû le rater*

**didn't load on** – *n'a pas été chargé sur*

**tracking facility** – *système de suivi*

**it has shipped** – *il a été expédié*



**\*Tip!**

### **To Ship / Shipment**

En anglais le verbe **'to ship'** (expédier, acheminer) et le nom **'shipment'** (envoi) sont utilisés non seulement pour le transport maritime mais pour tous les modes de transport.

Le terme **'shipper'** (l'expéditeur) est également utilisé pour tous les modes.

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Questions

Q1. Complete the information about the container mentioned. (4)

- container number : **CHNU 488 965-3 (2)**
- port of origin: **Rotterdam (1)**
- bound for: **Tokyo (1)**

Q2. Describe the incident which affected this container last week? (4)

- **It should have transhipped in Singapore (2)**
- **but it got missed / was shortshipped OR it didn't load on the vessel (2)**

Q3. When is the container expected to arrive in Tokyo? (1)

- ***On the 29<sup>th</sup> (1)***



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## Answers