



YOUR EXPERT IN COCOA TRANSPORTATION



An aerial photograph of a shipping yard. The yard is filled with numerous stacks of intermodal containers in various colors, including yellow, red, blue, and white. A forklift is visible in the center, moving a white container. The ground is marked with yellow lines and alphanumeric labels like '30', '31', '32', 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'V', 'W', 'X', 'Y', 'Z'.

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A FAMILY COMPANY CARING FOR YOUR BUSINESS

[msc.com](https://www.msc.com)



MSC is a family company with strong values and a deep shipping heritage dating back 50 years. Despite our global presence and large-scale operations, we understand that each customer has different needs, so we go the extra mile to offer tailor-made solutions.

Founded by Captain Gianluigi Aponte, MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) is a privately-owned shipping line established in 1970 and headquartered in Geneva (Switzerland) since 1978. The company's international headquarters supervise a worldwide network of offices, each responsible for commercial and operational activities in their respective countries.

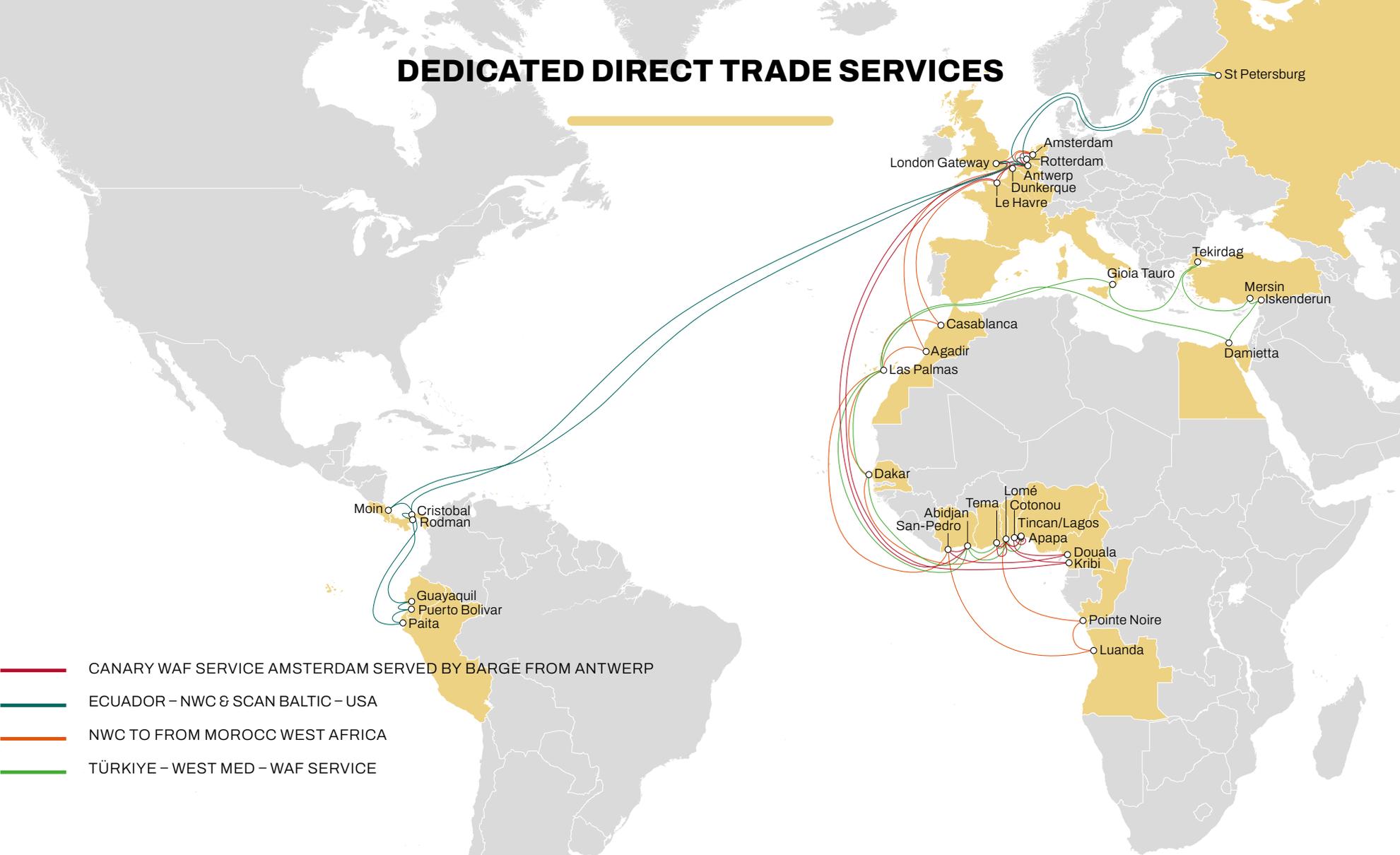
MSC is a world leader in global transportation and is part of the MSC Group shipping conglomerate, a global business in the transport and logistics sector. The Group encompasses a Cargo Division with MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), Terminal Investment Limited (TIL), MEDLOG and a Passenger Division led by MSC Cruises and complemented by Mediterranean passenger ferries Grandi Navi Veloci (GNV) and SNAV.

YOUR PARTNER ON THE COCOA JOURNEY

If there's one product loved worldwide for its flavour, it's chocolate. This global obsession means a constant demand for cocoa, and therefore for a reliable, responsive supply chain where every party fully understands the complexity of the bean-to-consumer journey. As a world leader in global container shipping, MSC Mediterranean Shipping Company prides itself on offering global service with local knowledge. Over the years, our local teams in Africa, Asia and Latin America have developed a strong expertise in all of the aspects related to cocoa transportation. In Africa, MSC is present in over 40 countries, with offices in Ivory Coast, Ghana, Cameroon, Nigeria and Uganda undeniably some of the major producing countries. In South America, Ecuador and Peru are the key players in cocoa production. Ecuador leads cocoa production in Latin America, and the port of Guayaquil in Ecuador is the main hub for cocoa exports. We're proud of our credibility and our deep understanding when it comes to the world of cocoa. MSC clearly is the perfect partner for the critical journey of this high-demand commodity.



DEDICATED DIRECT TRADE SERVICES

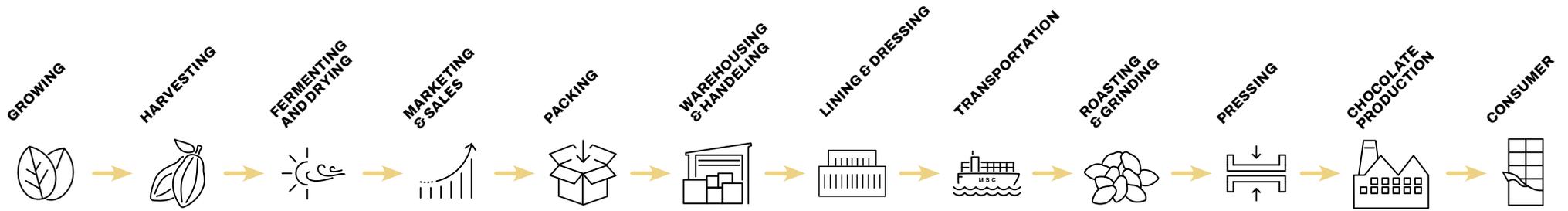


AT THE HEART OF THE COCOA VALUE CHAIN

According to the International Trade Center (ITC), the main importers of post-processing cocoa products are Europe and the United States, as primary regions for chocolate manufacturing. The top five biggest importers in the past few years included the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, USA and Malaysia. The quality of cocoa products is primarily determined by the quality of the raw cocoa. Cocoa itself will not improve after it leaves the farm gates, but it is critical that it is carefully preserved during transportation.

At MSC, we understand the sensitivity required in the care of cocoa beans throughout their journey. We work closely with exporters, brokers and importers to ensure the commodity arrives in the very best conditions possible. Our extensive knowledge and experience tells us that cocoa beans should be shipped shortly after harvest, as extended storage (more than six months) may result in losses due to the high relative humidity in the tropics.

It is thanks to this knowledge that we are able to guide our customers in shipment options of either containerized or conventional shipping and handle the full process from the time the cocoa leaves the plantation to when it is exported. This includes the control procedures; cleaning, drying and packing of cocoa beans, as well as container stuffing, export customs formalities, and lining & dressing.





MSC'S COCOA EXPORT AND IMPORT PROCESS

Every single cocoa journey we organise for our customers receives the highest level of attention and expertise. Our highly experienced local MSC Netherlands team takes huge pride in supporting each step of the export and import process, from guiding customers through appropriate and country-specific procedures, to helpfully suggesting advice around shipment preparation. MSC customers know they can rely on the very best solution, from the moment they make their booking, to the loading of their container on board the vessel.

Our role is to be the partner you can trust at every step.





CONTAINER SELECTION PROCESS & PREPARATION

During the cocoa import process, we help our customers to choose their containers. Our local team of Dutch experts is there to advise on the different materials available. At MSC, we understand the importance of keeping our customers' goods in perfect condition, from the moment they are loaded to the moment they reach their destination.

Our container inspection includes:

- Cleaning to remove any interior dirt on walls, ceilings and floors (such as grease or oil) and odours
- Checking for cracks, holes, leaks (leak test), rust and fixing brackets (mounting screws prohibited)
- An examination of the external structure (to ensure that the side walls, handles and rails of the container are not deformed and that the doors close correctly)
- Testing of the moisture level of the floor, which must not exceed 12%
- Verification of the absence of hazardous material labels on the walls

We then prepare the containers according to the packaging:

- Cocoa beans in container bags or bulk containers
- Cocoa derivatives in dry or refrigerated containers



DRESSING	FUNCTION / USE	STUFFING CONTAINER BAGS (40'dv) with cocoa beans	STUFFING BULK CONTAINERS (20'dv) with cocoa beans	STUFFING CONTAINERS (20'dv) with cocoa derivatives
Liner bags or shifting boards	Polypropylene canvas placed on the doors of a container to prevent cocoa beans from falling or removable partition placed behind the doors of a container to facilitate the stuffing and stripping of bulk goods (cocoa, coffee, etc.)		✓	
Iron bar	Steel tube with square section to support liner bags		✓	
Dry Bags	Desiccant sachets: moisture-absorbing sachets designed to protect against potential damage in the event of condensation forming. The number of sachets used depends on the transit time, the weather conditions in the loading and unloading ports, the packaging (container bags or bulk containers) and the size and type of container (20'DV or 40'DV)	✓		
Sisal twine in rolls	Used to attach corrugated board or plates inside containers	✓		
Single faced corrugated board	Used to cover the interior walls (sides, ceilings, floors) of containers	✓		✓
Double faced corrugated board (new surface covering material)	Used to cover the interior walls (sides, ceilings, floors) of containers	✓		✓
Plates	Used to cover the interior walls (sides and ceilings)	✓		
Regular metallic lead: Bottle Seal	Used to secure full containers, all types of products	✓	✓	✓
Metallic lead: Mega Lock	Used to increase the security of cocoa containers	✓	✓	

* For any questions about possible packages, please contact one of our local experts.

MSC IN AFRICA

Africa leads the world in cocoa production, with the port of San Pedro, in Ivory Coast, as the main harbor for cocoa exports. Throughout our global network, MSC can connect the African continent to the main trade centers of the world. With our warehouses in Abidjan and San Pedro, we can provide all services for the safe handling and shipping of your cocoa beans such as humidity check, quality check, sorting, bagging, palletisation and end-to-end documentation assistance. Together with our extensive inland transport possibilities, we make sure your cocoa beans are picked up and shipped safely. Besides Ivory Coast, we can offer weekly shipments from Ghana, Cameroon and Nigeria. We prioritize the safety of your cargo, ensuring peace of mind throughout the shipping process, with a dedicated security department. Our trucks are fully equipped and to further safeguard your shipments, we partner with one of the top security firms in the country to protect our warehouses and monitor container movements. Additionally, we have established a dedicated security department to oversee these comprehensive security measures.

Our key strengths in Africa are:

- A dedicated cocoa team in Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria and Cameroon
- Weekly sailings on several trades
- Fast and reliable transit times
- 24/7 container availability
- Our own terminal in San Pedro and participating in other local terminals
- Offering inland transport and logistics activities via our subsidiaries





MSC IN SOUTH AMERICA

Ecuador leads the cocoa's production in Latin America, and the port of Guayaquil is the main hub for cocoa exports.

The country is a globally recognized producer of high-quality cocoa beans. Ecuador produces just 5% of the world's cocoa beans, but its quality makes up about 63% of the fine flavor variety globally.

As MSC we understand the particularities and sensitivity required in the care of cocoa beans throughout their journey. This is precisely the reason why our customers decide to partner with MSC, ensuring this delicious commodity arrives in the very best conditions possible.

MSC has operated in Ecuador for more than 29 years. Thanks to our shipping and intermodal services worldwide coverage, as well as our experience caring for cocoa beans, we offer fast and reliable services that connect Ecuadorian exporters to all the main trade centers of the world, including the Far East, Europe, and the USA.

Our key strengths in South America:

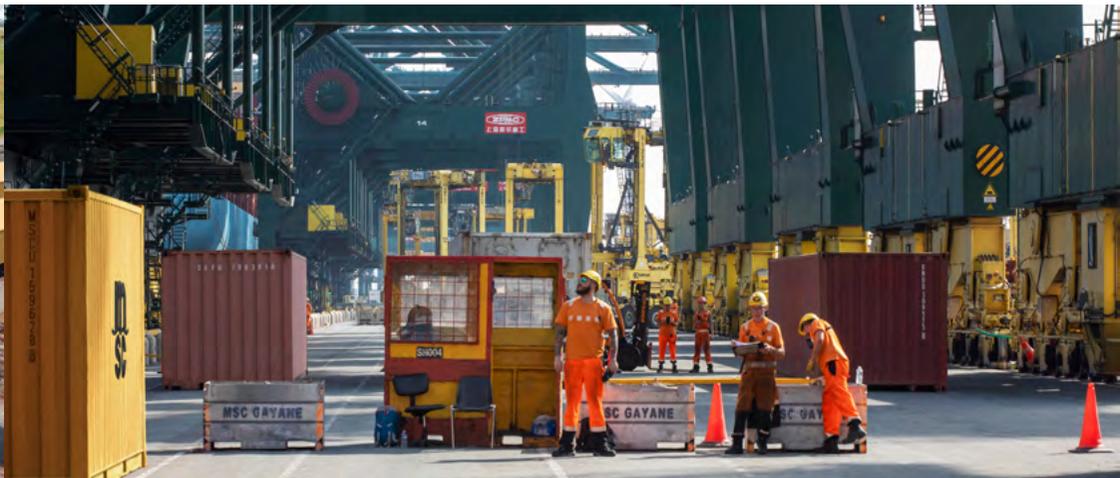
- Team of experts specialized in cocoa handling
- Weekly trade services to Europe, North America and Asia
- Departures from Naportec, Guayaquil's best terminal port in terms of security, productivity and efficiency
- Container conditioning for cocoa cargo





MSC IN THE NETHERLANDS

The Port of Rotterdam is the natural gateway to the Netherlands and Europe. MSC Netherlands offer an extensive network of truck, trains and barges connecting over 22 inland terminals and depots. With a direct barge service between Antwerp and Amsterdam, for your cocoa shipments. With a direct call from the South America West Coast to Rotterdam, and with dedicated connections from West Africa to Amsterdam, we offer true flexibility for your supply chain – not only through these connections themselves but also by providing multiple location options in the Amsterdam area (in case POD Amsterdam), including TMA Amsterdam (HCT), CTV Amsterdam (CTV) and CTV Westzaan (Hoogtij). Locations can as well be served from other origins as intermodal transport by barge from POD Rotterdam (rates available on request). To safeguard your cocoa cargo, various methods and equipment for lining and dressing can be applied. Should you have any specific questions, our team of local experts is always ready to assist you. At MSC Netherlands, providing peace of mind through dependable service, flexible connections, and streamlined operations is at the heart of what we do. Our local team of Dutch cocoa experts is ready to support you with tailored logistics solutions that combine efficiency, sustainability, and trusted expertise. Let MSC Netherlands be your cocoa partner of choice through Europe's most connected port.



UNLOCKING MORE, WITH MSC'S VALUE-ADDED SOLUTIONS

We understand that every customer's goods are unique, which is why we offer a wide range of enhanced services to suit each stage of your supply chain.



eBL

The electronic bill of lading (eBL) is an original electronic document which offers a more efficient, secure, and sustainable alternative to a complex and costly process. Manage your eBLs in just a matter of clicks!



CARGO INSURANCE

At MSC, we believe that providing customers with peace of mind is a key part of our job. That is why we apply a personalised one-stop-shop approach to cargo insurance.



CUSTOMS CLEARANCE

As an Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) partner, our local team can provide you with quick and efficient customs clearance processing and expert guidance on Dutch customs processes and regulations.



INLAND SOLUTIONS

With an in-depth knowledge of local services and infrastructure, our worldwide teams specialize in developing tailor-made integrated haulage services that meet your supply chain requirements.



SMART CONTAINERS

We know that being able to track and monitor your shipment remotely helps you to plan. That's why we offer Smart Containers for all types of dry cargo, so you can keep a close eye on what matters the most.



FUMIGATION

MSC's advanced fumigation solution integrates with our carrier haulage and port community systems, ensuring efficient cargo movement and streamlined documentation.



CONTACT YOUR LOCAL MSC TEAM TO FIND OUT MORE

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