

Export checklist: Australia

Seaway Project Cargo · prepared October 18, 2026

7,616

U.S. machines shipped here in 2025

30–32 days

Fastest published transit

\$12,750

Duty and VAT, \$100,000 excavator

Regular

RoRo from the East and Gulf Coast

SHIPPING METHODS

- Container: Booked on request. Container ports: Port of Melbourne, Port of Brisbane, Port of Fremantle, Port of Sydney. No schedule we track lists a direct call, so the carrier and any transshipment are confirmed at booking.
- Flat rack: Booked on request. For machines too wide or tall for a closed box, on container lines that accept out-of-gauge cargo. Discharge at Port of Melbourne, Port of Brisbane, Port of Fremantle, Port of Sydney, subject to the terminal taking flat racks.
- RoRo: Regular from all U.S. coasts. Published services: Höegh Autoliners North America – Oceania. RoRo ports: Port of Melbourne, Port of Brisbane, Port of Fremantle, Port of Sydney.
- Breakbulk: Liner breakbulk or charter. For cargo too large or heavy for a flat rack, loaded by ship or shore crane. Breakbulk and heavy-lift ports: Port of Melbourne, Port of Brisbane, Port of Fremantle, Port Hedland.

DUTY AND TAX

- Import duty: 2.5% of \$100,000 CIF is \$2,500 (HS 8429.52, 2023 tariff).
- GST: 10% of the duty-inclusive \$102,500 is \$10,250 (Australian Border Force / ATO, checked June 2026)
- Total duty and tax: \$12,750, or 13% of CIF.
- Excavators 2.5% · Wheel loaders 2.5% · Crawler dozers 0% · Motor graders 5% · Backhoes and other excavating machines 2.5% · Crawler and rough-terrain cranes 5%

U.S. EXPORT STEPS

- File the EEI in AES before loading (every vehicle, and any Schedule B line over \$2,500) and pass the ITN to the carrier.
- Titled machines: original title and EEI to U.S. Customs at the port at least 72 hours before export.
- Wood packaging and dunnage must be ISPM 15 heat-treated and stamped.
- Check the export classification (EAR99 or an ECCN) before booking.

DOCUMENTS AT DESTINATION

Commercial Invoice · Packing List · Bill of Lading · DAWE Import Permit · Cleaning Certificate · Equipment Specifications · Quarantine Declaration

USED-MACHINERY RULES

- Inspection: Used machinery for mining, earthmoving, construction or agriculture must arrive clean and faces mandatory on-arrival inspection: break-bulk at a wharf, containers at an approved site. If contaminated, it is cleaned, exported or destroyed at the importer's expense.
- Inspection: Used earthmoving machinery must enter free of biosecurity risk material, which may require partial or full dismantling to clean. Low-level contamination is cleaned at an approved arrangement site; heavily contaminated machines may be ordered exported.
- Licence or permit: Earth-moving machines (dozers, loaders, backhoes, excavators, graders, dumpers, etc.) may qualify as non-road vehicles needing no road-vehicle import approval. An advisory notice can be requested via ROVER.
- Licence or permit: Road vehicles, including road trucks, need an RVSA import approval (type approval, concessional RAV entry or non-RAV entry) before transport to Australia. Importing without one is an offence, and customs will not clear the vehicle.
- Conformity: Asbestos and goods containing it are prohibited imports. Brake and clutch linings, gaskets and seals are high risk. ABF may detain goods and require accredited sampling and testing at the importer's cost, and overseas 'asbestos-free' certificates may not suffice.