

Export checklist: China

Seaway Project Cargo · prepared October 18, 2026

1,018

U.S. machines shipped here in 2025

\$22,040

Duty and VAT, \$100,000 excavator

Limited

RoRo from the East and Gulf Coast

SHIPPING METHODS

- Container: Direct sailings published. Published services: Hapag-Lloyd Gemini transpacific services. Container ports: Port of Shanghai, Port of Ningbo-Zhoushan, Port of Tianjin, Port of Qingdao, Port of Shenzhen.
- 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 Shanghai, Port of Ningbo-Zhoushan, Port of Tianjin, Port of Qingdao, Port of Shenzhen, subject to the terminal taking flat racks.
- RoRo: Limited from the East and Gulf Coast, regular from the West Coast. RoRo ports: Port of Shanghai, Port of Tianjin, Port of Qingdao, Port of Shenzhen. Carriers call these routes on their schedules; we confirm the next sailing at booking.
- 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 Shanghai, Port of Ningbo-Zhoushan, Port of Tianjin, Port of Qingdao, Port of Shenzhen.

DUTY AND TAX

- Import duty: 8% of \$100,000 CIF is \$8,000 (HS 8429.52, 2023 tariff).
- VAT: 13% of the duty-inclusive \$108,000 is \$14,040 (China Customs (GACC), checked June 2026)
- Total duty and tax: \$22,040, or 22% of CIF.
- Excavators 8% · Wheel loaders 5% · Crawler dozers 7% · Motor graders 5% · Backhoes and other excavating machines 8% · Crawler and rough-terrain cranes 5%

U.S. EXPORT CONTROLS

- Diversion risk. China, including Hong Kong and Macau, named by BIS/OFAC/DOJ as a Russia transshipment point.
- EAR99 heavy equipment normally needs no licence here, but reexport to Russia/Belarus of Supp. 4 items (8429, 8426, 8701, 8704) needs a BIS licence (§746.8(a)(5)). EAR §744.21 also requires a licence for Supp. 2 items for Chinese military end users; check Entity List. Screen all parties (CSL, SDN, Entity List); get end-user certification and no-Russia clause; red flags: forwarder as final consignee, third-country payer, onward routing.

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 · Certificate of Origin · CCC Certificate (if required) · Equipment Specifications · Import License (if applicable)

USED-MACHINERY RULES

- Inspection: GACC Measures for Inspection of Imported Used Mechanical and Electrical Products (amended by GACC Order 243), Art. 5 and 7: port inspection and destination inspection apply. High-risk products on GACC's list must complete pre-shipment inspection before departure.
- Inspection: Measures Art. 11: for construction machinery, the pre-shipment report must list each unit's HS code, model, origin, engine/frame number, manufacture year, operating hours and maintenance records. Certificate must be in Chinese, usually valid six or twelve months.