

Montana Rail Link, Inc.
Claim for Lading Loss or Damage

Claimant Information

Company Name: _____ Claimant's File: _____
Address: _____ Contact Person: _____
City, St Zip: _____ Email: _____
Phone: _____

Shipping Information

Car Initial and Number: _____ Billing Date: _____
Van/Container Initial and Number: _____
Origin City, St: _____ Shipper: _____
Destination City, St: _____ Receiver: _____
Commodity Description: _____
Date Received: _____ Date Unloaded: _____

Claim Basis

Claim Amount: \$ _____ is made for Loss, Damage or Labor Only
Carrier Previously Notified: Yes, Date: _____ No Other: _____
Photos taken: Yes No (If yes, include with claim)
Description of Damages: _____

Explain determination of amount claimed (description of commodity, applicable unit price and units).
Show on separate page if necessary. _____

The following documents, as checked, are submitted in support of claim: (Submission of all pertinent documents will expedite disposition of claim.)

- Invoice
- Destination Inspection Report
- Bill of Lading
- Paid freight bill
- Receipt for salvage
- Other pertinent documents, scale weight tickets, loading/unloading tally sheets

Mail, fax or e-mail to:

Director - Revenue Actg.
Montana Rail Link, Inc.
P. O. Box 16390
Missoula, MT 59808
Phone: 406-523-1414
Fax: 406-523-1493
e-mail: mkrause@mtrail.com

Please complete this section to assure compliance with Section 2(b) of Bill of Lading conditions.

The undersigned hereby certifies that all statements in this claim are correct, that the prices herein do not exceed the destination value of such property on the due date in the quantity shipped and do not include unearned profit or expenses not incurred; further that such prices are those appearing on original invoice, if issued, less all discounts and allowances, whether or not same actually appear thereon. The undersigned hereby guarantees to protect Montana Rail Link, Inc., or any connecting carriers, against any and all loss, damage, costs, expenses, and attorney's fees which may result from payment of this claim by reason of our failure to support same with the original Bill of Lading and/or paid Freight Bill. It is understood the carrier reserves the right to request original or copy of any document deemed essential to proper disposition of claim. **The undersigned acknowledges that this form may be submitted electronically in accordance with the Montana Uniform Electronic Transactions Act and that an electronic signature of the undersigned shall carry the same force and effect of a written signature.**

Signature of Claimant

Date

Loss & Damage Verification & Filing Claims

Carrier's basic responsibility: To deliver lading at destination in the same condition as received at origin.

When receiving goods, consignee should:

1. Note condition and number of seals.
2. Verify condition of lading, including unit count and/or weight if applicable.
3. If damage exists, contact MRL Freight Claims at 406-523-1414.
4. Do not unload prior to step 3 above.
5. Take photographs before handling any lading and during unloading.
6. Keep detailed damage and shortage notations on receiving records.

If claim will be filed against carrier:

1. Know the terms of your Bill of Lading and/or Contract of Carriage.
 - Is it a through bill or more than one contract involved?
 - What are the time limitations for filing against carrier?
 - Is there a minimum claim amount? Maximum? Other liability limitations?
2. Claim must be filed in writing within contractual time limitations, must identify shipment, and must make a demand for reimbursement. Forward to:

**Director - Revenue Accounting
Montana Rail Link, Inc.
P. O. Box 16390
Missoula, MT 59808**

Claim support: The following documents should be included with the claim to speed handling.

1. Bill of Lading
2. Paid freight bill
3. Verification of loss or damage, including photos
4. Receiving records showing notations
5. Invoice showing ownership and costs
6. Salvage allowance - Generally, the consignee is in the best position to handle salvage and to mitigate the loss for all involved.
7. Claim assignment - If company filing against carrier is not party to carrier's contract, an assignment from company so appearing is needed. For example, third party shipper generally appears on our Contract for Carriage. If company other than our shipper/consignee is to handle claim, third party shipper must assign claim rights.
8. If claim is filed by third party, proof of payment to your customer is needed.
9. If a shortage claim, verification of quantity shipped and quantity received, as well as seal record at time of unloading and on receipt from carrier.

For additional information on Freight Claims or filing claims, please call 406-523-1414.