

# SINGAPORE AS A PREMIER GLOBAL HUB PORT

**You will learn:**  
What it means for Singapore to be a premier Global Hub Port in a globalised world

## A LET'S LEARN ABOUT MARITIME SINGAPORE

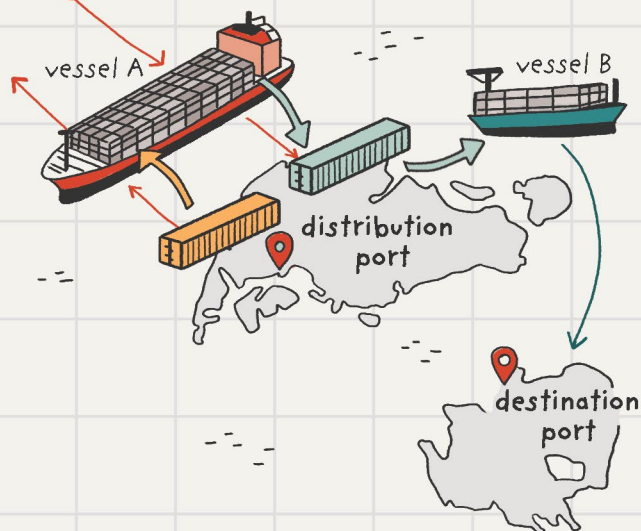
### WHAT EFFECT DOES GLOBALISATION HAVE ON MARITIME ACTIVITIES?

Globalisation has made the world smaller as **countries become more connected** with one another in trade, economy and cultural exchange. We have seen earlier how world events can have an impact on sea trade and sea routes, such as the opening of the Suez Canal in Egypt in 1869, which cut down sailing time between Europe and Asia; and the invention of the container for shipping in America in 1956, which made it easier and faster to load onto, and to unload goods off ships.



As a premier Global Hub Port, **Singapore is linked to 600 ports in over 120 countries**, and its maritime connections to the rest of the world form an important part of its economic growth because more than 80% of the world's trade comes by the sea. Since 1986, Singapore has been **one of the world's busiest ports**, with more than 130,000 vessels stopping by every year.

Being well-connected globally is also the reason why Singapore is a **world-leading hub for transshipment**. Transshipment is when ships carrying goods stop at one distribution port (such as Singapore) to unload goods going to other ports, before loading goods to be transported to their destination port.

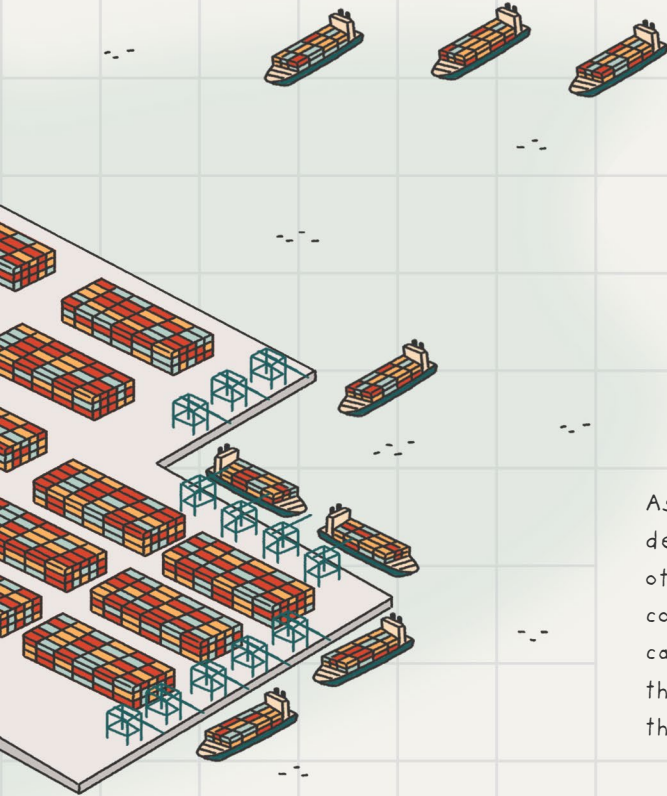


### Transshipment saves time and money

as ships can make less trips by going to one port, instead of travelling to several ports to load and unload goods. Singapore is currently the world's busiest transshipment hub, with more than 30 million TEUs (Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit container) passing through every year.



With so much activity happening, Singapore is a port that never sleeps. At any one time, there are about 1,000 vessels in the port, arriving around the clock. Every 2 to 3 minutes, a ship arrives at or departs from Singapore. Singapore's excellent maritime structure also makes it a popular cruise centre for holidaymakers in the region, attracting an average of more than 30 international cruise ships every year, with about 400 port calls and one million visitors passing through the international cruise terminal.



As a hub for global shipping, Singapore has built up a reliable and dense network of connections to shipping lines as well as with other ports in the region over the years. By constantly staying competitive in offering faster and better services, and with the capability to handle a high number of ships and TEUs passing through, it is no wonder that Singapore is constantly voted one of the top ports in the world!

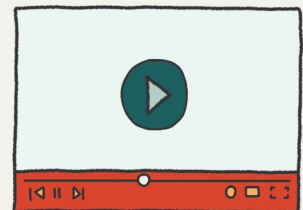
### THINK ABOUT THIS:

Globalisation has brought the world closer as countries become more interconnected. What are some advantages and disadvantages of globalisation you can think of?

## B FIND OUT MORE

### INTERESTING VIDEOS YOU CAN CHECK OUT ON THE INTERNET:

- [From a Fishing Village to a Global Hub Port and International Maritime Centre](#)
- [Singapore World's Busiest Transshipment Port](#)
- [Jurong Port Transshipment and Consolidation Hub](#)
- [PSA Bicentennial Series Ep 5: Going Global](#)



## C TRY THIS ACTIVITY!

# LIVING IN A GLOBALISED WORLD: WHERE DO THESE GOODS COME FROM?

### HOW TO START

Using the table below, find these items in your house and write down their name/brand in the correct spaces.

THINGS YOU EAT	THINGS IN YOUR HOUSE	THINGS YOU WEAR	THINGS YOU USE
Rice Name/Brand:	Television Name/Brand:	T-shirt Name/Brand:	Pen Name/Brand:
Fruit Name/Brand:	Washing Machine Name/Brand:	Jeans Name/Brand:	Book Name/Brand:
Vegetables Name/Brand:	Refrigerator Name/Brand:	Shoes Name/Brand:	Computer Name/Brand:

*In this activity, you will find out how much we depend on other countries for the goods we use every day.*

- 1 Where are these items made? Find out by looking at the packaging or tag, or search the internet for your item type and brand.
- 2 Place an X where your items are made in the map below.



- 3 Draw a line connecting the X to the country you currently live in. Do this for all the Xs marked on the map.
- 4 **What have you discovered? Where do most of the goods you have and use at home come from?**
- 5 **Bonus round:** Collect more data by listing the raw materials used to make your items, and find out where these raw materials come from.

### CHAT ABOUT THIS:

What has this activity shown you about living in a globalised world?

# SINGAPORE AS A LEADING INTERNATIONAL MARITIME CENTRE

## You will learn:


Singapore's role as a leading maritime nation

## A LET'S LEARN ABOUT MARITIME SINGAPORE

### WHAT ROLE DOES SINGAPORE PLAY INTERNATIONALLY, FOR MARITIME ACTIVITIES AND ISSUES?

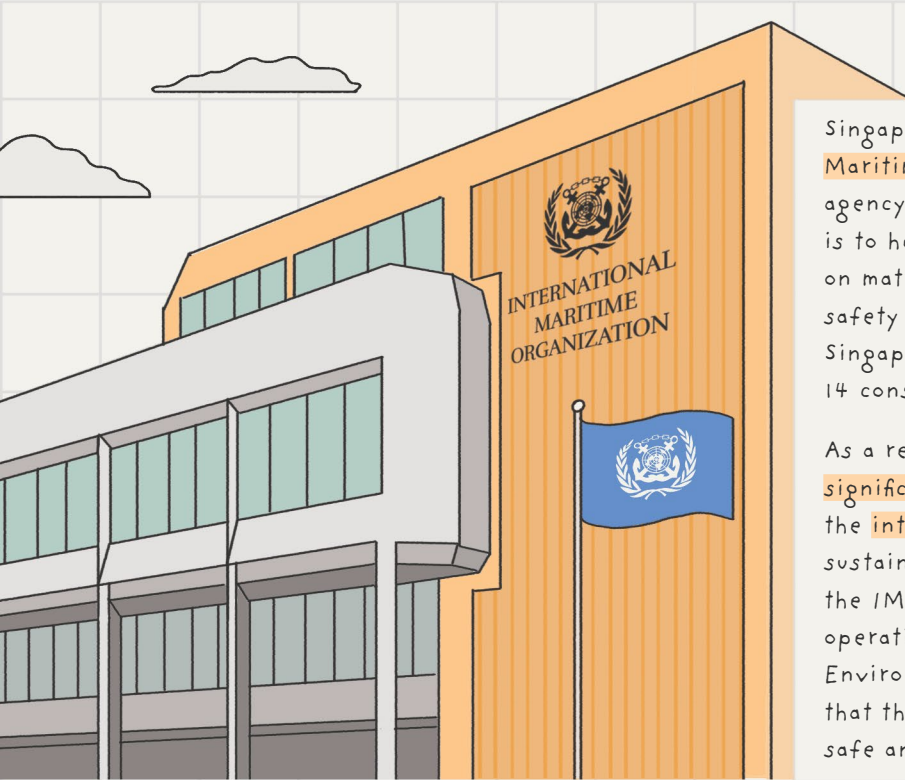
We have previously learnt how **globalisation connects us to the rest of the world**, and how Singapore has developed into a premier Global Hub Port over the years.

Maintaining the growth of the port is very important because the maritime industry contributes to a large part of the Singapore economy. In addition, Singapore's wide and far-reaching global connections also make her an **ideal connecting hub** for businesses, helping them connect to Asia and the rest of the world.



Singapore's strategic location, long trading history and strong connections to Asia and Asian markets make her the preferred place for maritime companies and businesses to expand and grow. As a top transshipment hub, Singapore is also a **leading International Maritime Centre (IMC)**, attracting many international shipping companies who, in turn, bring in other international maritime companies to provide maritime services such as shipping finance, maritime insurance and maritime law, creating a vibrant environment for maritime activities to take place.

Globally, Singapore as a leading maritime nation continues to play an important role in contributing to the international maritime community.



Singapore serves on the **Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)**, which is the shipping agency of the United Nations. The aim of the IMO is to help governments across the world cooperate on matters such as international shipping, maritime safety and prevention of shipping pollution, and Singapore has been elected on the IMO Council for 14 consecutive terms since 1993.

As a representative, Singapore has **made many significant contributions** to promote the efforts of the **international maritime community** in safe and sustainable shipping. These include working with the IMO, Indonesia and Malaysia to create the Co-operative Mechanism on Safety of Navigation and Environmental Protection, which helps make sure that the Straits of Malacca and Singapore remain safe and open for international shipping.

Singapore has evolved and grown from a trading post in the past, into the premier Global Hub Port and leading International Maritime Centre that it is today. Throughout the years, Maritime Singapore has been important in **sustaining Singapore's development and success**, and will continue to be an important basis for Singapore's economic growth and strategy for the future.



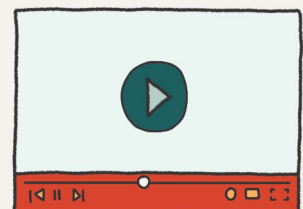
### THINK ABOUT THIS:

What would happen if Singapore did not have so many global connections to the world? How would that affect Singapore's growth and development?

## B FIND OUT MORE

### INTERESTING VIDEOS YOU CAN CHECK OUT ON THE INTERNET:

- [MPA Singapore - The Driving Force Behind Maritime Singapore](#)
- [National Maritime Transport Policy - A Closer Look](#)
- [Behind the scenes: the making of IMO meetings](#)
- [Tackling COVID-19 - a voyage together](#)



## C TRY THIS ACTIVITY!

Imagine you are representing Singapore at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) meeting, what are some maritime issues you would like to discuss with the other representatives?



Here are some useful articles you can start with first, to find out more about Maritime Singapore and the IMO:

- 1 [Singapore tops index as key global shipping hub for 7th straight year](#)
- 2 [Singapore is top maritime centre for 6th straight year](#)
- 3 [Singapore re-elected to International Maritime Organisation council](#)
- 4 [Secretary-General of International Maritime Organization visits Singapore](#)
- 5 [Singapore Maritime Week 2018: Singapore pledges US\\$5m for International Maritime Organization](#)
- 6 [Introduction to International Maritime Organization \(IMO\)](#)
- 7 [IMO Matters](#)

**CHAT  
ABOUT  
THIS:**

What has this activity shown you about the importance of international relations and the representation of Singapore on the global stage?

# SINGAPORE'S MARITIME ACHIEVEMENTS

You will learn:

Singapore's maritime achievements beyond the port

## A LET'S LEARN ABOUT MARITIME SINGAPORE

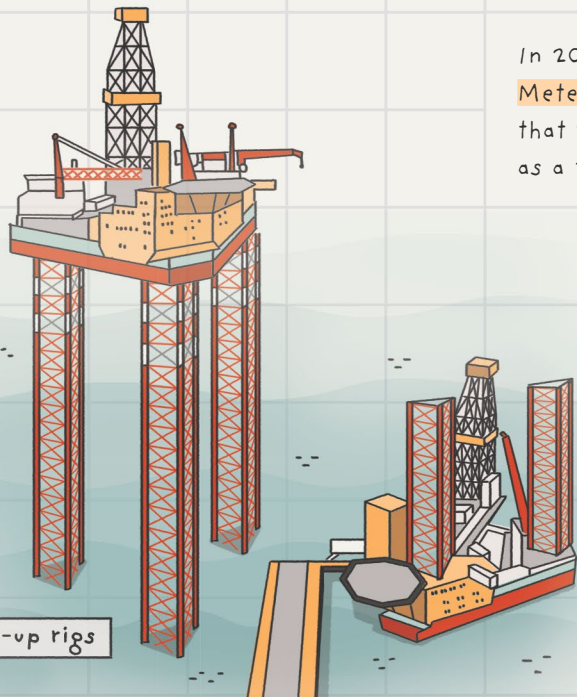
### WHAT ARE SOME OF SINGAPORE'S MARITIME ACHIEVEMENTS?

We know that Singapore's port is constantly voted as one of the top ports globally, but did you know that Singapore has other maritime achievements as well?

For a country that does not produce any crude oil, Singapore is the top bunkering (ship refuelling) port in the world. Just like cars need to top up their tanks at petrol stations to travel on roads, ships need to refuel at ports to continue their journey at sea. Singapore has facilities to refine crude oil on Jurong Island, turning it into fuel for use. In 2019, more than 47 million tonnes of bunker (fuel to power ships) was lifted in Singapore, which is enough to fill over 18,000 Olympic-sized pools!

Besides being a top bunkering port, Singapore was also the first country to develop and put in standards for bunkering since the 1990s. Before that, there were no universally accepted methods or procedures when it came to refuelling ships.



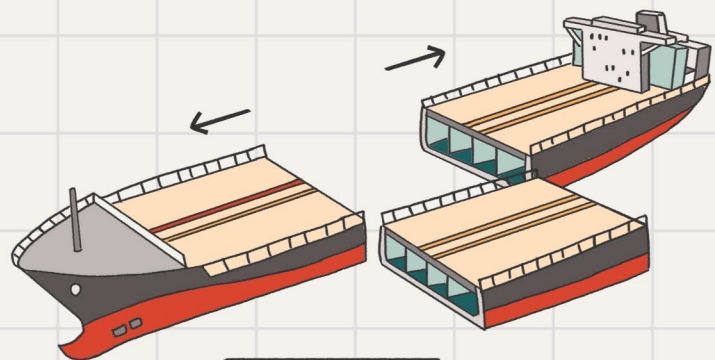


Jack-up rigs

In 2017, Singapore made it compulsory to use the Mass Flow Meter System when delivering fuel to ships. This ensured that there is fairness and reinforced Singapore's position as a trustworthy place for bunkering.

In addition to being a bunkering hub, Singapore's achievements can also be seen in its marine and offshore engineering. Besides operating shipbuilding and ship-repair facilities, Singapore also designed and built about 70% of the world's jack-up rigs, which are movable platforms that can be raised over the sea surface to drill for oil below.

Today, there are many specialised ships being designed and built for international shipping and world trade. Singapore's shipyards have the specialised knowledge to convert ships to increase their size, or to change their purpose. For example, vessels can be increased in size by being separated into two and having a middle section added to lengthen it, allowing the new vessel to handle more cargo on board. These maritime achievements are definitely something that Singapore can be proud of!



Ship conversion

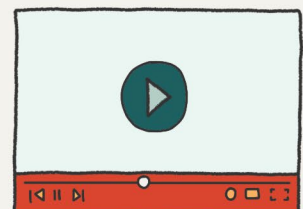
**THINK ABOUT THIS:**

How has Singapore's maritime achievements changed the way you look at Singapore as a maritime nation?

## B FIND OUT MORE

### BEYOND THE PORT – ACHIEVEMENTS IN BUNKERING AND MARINE ENGINEERING.

- [My SkillsFuture Industry Video - Marine and Offshore](#)
- [Forging Partnerships, Co-developing Solutions: Singapore as a Premier Bunkering Hub](#)
- [Jurong Port Tank Terminals](#)





## C TRY THIS ACTIVITY!

Do some research to find examples of ships that are built and designed in Singapore.

Which ship design is the best, in your opinion?

Draw it out in the space below and list out the reasons why you think so.

### ★ BEST SHIP DESIGN ★

Name of ship

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There are many models of jack-up rigs and ships designed and built in Singapore at the Singapore Maritime Gallery. Plan a trip down to take a look at them for yourself!

**CHAT ABOUT THIS:**

How do you feel after learning about Singapore's maritime achievements? Share your thoughts with your friends and family!