

Tips for What to Ask a Bonded Warehouse Provider vs a Non-Bonded Warehouse Provider

Bonded Warehouse Provider

A bonded warehouse is a secure storage facility where imported goods can be stored without paying customs duties until they are sold or moved out of the warehouse. When speaking to a bonded warehouse provider, focus on customs regulations, international trade compliance, and storage security.

1. **Customs and Duty Handling**
 - Do you have experience with customs clearance processes?
 - How do you manage the storage of goods pending duty payment?
 - Are there any restrictions on the types of goods you can store in the bonded warehouse?
 2. **Storage Duration and Costs**
 - What are the time limits for storing goods without paying duties?
 - Are there additional fees for extended storage?
 3. **Documentation and Compliance**
 - What documentation do you require for goods entering the bonded warehouse?
 - Do you assist with generating and maintaining necessary customs documents?
 - How do you ensure compliance with local and international trade laws?
 4. **Security and Insurance**
 - What measures are in place to ensure the security of stored goods?
 - Are goods insured while in the bonded warehouse?
 5. **Logistics and Operations**
 - Can you provide bonded transportation services?
 - Are there integrated services for re-export or transfer of goods without paying duties?
 6. **Reporting and Tracking**
 - Do you provide real-time inventory tracking for bonded goods?
 - How frequently do you report inventory levels to clients?
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Non-Bonded Warehouse Provider

A non-bonded warehouse is a standard storage facility for domestic goods or goods where duties and taxes have already been paid. The focus here is on efficiency, general storage, and value-added services.

1. **Storage Capabilities**
 - What types of goods can you store (e.g., perishable, oversized, hazardous)?
 - Do you offer climate-controlled or specialized storage facilities?
2. **Inventory Management**
 - What technology or systems do you use for inventory management?
 - Can you provide detailed reporting and tracking?
3. **Value-Added Services**
 - Do you offer packaging, labeling, or kitting services?
 - Can you handle fulfillment and distribution services?
4. **Access and Operations**
 - What are your hours of operation?
 - How quickly can goods be retrieved or shipped from the warehouse?
5. **Pricing and Flexibility**
 - What is your pricing model (e.g., per pallet, square footage, or weight)?
 - Do you offer flexible contracts or pay-as-you-go options?
6. **Insurance and Liability**
 - Are goods insured while in storage, and what is the coverage?
 - What is your liability policy for damaged or lost goods?
7. **Transportation and Integration**
 - Do you provide transportation services to and from the warehouse?
 - Can you integrate with third-party logistics providers?

By tailoring your questions to the specific services each type of warehouse offers, you'll better understand their suitability for your storage and logistics needs.



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