# CHINA'S B2C EXPORT E-COMMERCE SUPPLY CHAIN SOLUTIONS MARKET

# INDEPENDENT MARKET STUDY

Frost & Sullivan
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### **Analysis of Export E-commerce Market in China**

### **Definition and Classification of Export E-commerce**

- B2C export e-commerce refers to e-commerce activities that exchange products, services, and information between businesses and individual consumers across different borders.
- Since 2013, the B2C export e-commerce market has grown rapidly as driven by the further improvement of payment system, improved cross-border logistics delivery efficiency, increase in the number of new B2C export e-commerce platforms and the gradually formed habits of online shopping among global consumers.

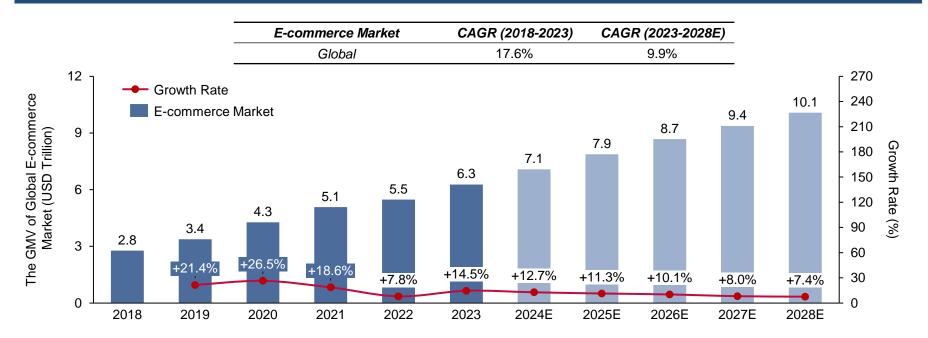
Classification by Transaction Subjects			
Export E-commerce Model	Characteristic Charac		
B2B (Business-to-Business)	<ul> <li>B2B export e-commerce is an e-commerce activity that exchanges products, services, and information between businesses and businesses across different borders. In China's export e-commerce market, the B2B mod account for over 70% of all transactions.</li> </ul>		
B2C (Business-to-Consumer)	<ul> <li>B2C export e-commerce refers to an e-commerce activity that exchanges products, services, and information between businesses and individual consumers across different borders. Businesses provide individual consumers with commodities purchase, information sharing, and other services.</li> </ul>		
C2C (Consumer-to-Consumer)	C2C export e-commerce is an e-commerce activity where one consumer purchases goods from anoth consumer using a third-party business or export e-commerce platform to facilitate the transaction.		

Source: Frost & Sullivan Analysis

### **Analysis of Export E-commerce Market in China**

**Overview of Global E-commerce Market** 

#### The GMV of E-commerce Market (Global), 2018 – 2028E



- With the increasing penetration of internet technology, the global e-commerce market has shown rapid growth in recent years. From 2018 to 2023, the GMV of global e-commerce increased from USD2.8 trillion to USD6.3 trillion, with a CAGR of 17.6%. The outbreak of COVID-19 changed shopping habits of customer and accelerated the transition of consumption pattern from traditional offline shopping to shopping from online channels and platforms, leading to further development of global e-commerce market.
- In the future, with the further development of e-commerce platforms and services, the GMV of global e-commerce is projected to reach USD10.1 trillion in 2028, growing at a CAGR of 9.9% from 2023 to 2028.

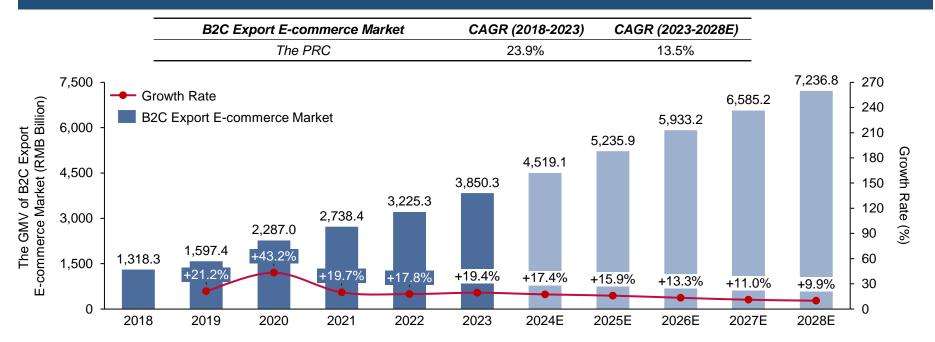
Note: The market size refers to the sum of GMV generated from e-commerce platforms.

Source: CIECC and Frost & Sullivan Analysis

### **Analysis of Export E-commerce Market in China**

#### The B2C Export E-commerce Market in China

#### The GMV of B2C Export E-commerce Market (The PRC), 2018 - 2028E



- The GMV of B2C export e-commerce market in the PRC increased rapidly, growing at a CAGR of 23.9% from RMB1,318.3 billion in 2018 to RMB3,850.3 billion in 2023.
- In the future, the GMV of the B2C export e-commerce market in the PRC is expected to reach RMB7,236.8 billion in 2028 with a CAGR of 13.5% from 2023 to 2028 mainly driven by (1) the continued growth of the global economy (2) the increase in global consumer purchasing power and (3) the further strengthened international trade and economic cooperation between countries.

Note: 1. The market size of the B2C export e-commerce market refers to the sum of GMV of all cross-border e-commerce platforms.

2. GMV, which refers to gross merchandise value, is a way of measuring the total value of all e-commerce sales over a selected time period. Source: CIECC and Frost & Sullivan Analysis

# **Analysis of Export E-commerce Market in China Pain Points**

Despite the projected growth, the e-commerce vendors in the B2C export e-commerce market face the following key pain points:

#### **Pain Points**

**Fragmented information** 

**Order management** 

Limited knowledge of local regulations

Demand for fast delivery to end-consumer

High cost of after-sale services

- The cost and availability of each component of the supply chain solutions, such as domestic collection, sorting, and transportation, are affected by many variables. Without supply chain visibility and control, it is difficult for e-commerce vendors to consolidate all information relating to different stakeholders and the logistical procedures involved.
- Most e-commerce vendors need to implement an omni-channel strategy to cater for orders from multiple ecommerce platforms. It is difficult to consolidate all consumer orders from various e-commerce platforms without the support of proper business processes and technological infrastructure.
- Trading activities of e-commerce vendors are strictly regulated by different local regulations such as taxation, commodity access, trade policies and customs, etc.. E-commerce vendors, especially players which are new to the industry, are generally unfamiliar with such local regulations. Limited knowledge of local regulations proves to be a challenge to e-commerce vendors which plan to expand to new geographical areas.
- Traditionally, without pre-sale stock stored in overseas warehouses, most e-commerce vendors can only deliver
  their goods directly from the PRC after orders have been placed by consumers overseas. As a result, the
  consumers need to endure long shipping times, which discourages them from ordering goods from e-commerce
  vendors. To retain their consumers, e-commerce vendors have to provide competitive shipping times similar to
  those of the local sellers, such as same-day or next-day delivery.
- E-commerce vendors normally face difficulties in dealing with product exchange and returns. For example, they
  may have to incur considerable cost and endure lengthy shipping period when processing product exchanges or
  return requests. The lengthened process for product exchange and returns generally results in a poor shopping
  experience for end-consumers and a costly after-sales services for e-commerce vendors.

Source: Frost & Sullivan Analysis

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# Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China Definition of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions

- In recent years, the rapid growth of the B2C export e-commerce market has stimulated demands for B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions which can address the complicated, fragmented and costly process of delivery of goods to end-consumers overseas. B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions refer to the supply chain solutions provided during the entire process of B2C e-commerce export. Therefore, there are many opportunities emerging for participants in the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market, especially for providers who can provide end-to-end solutions that can cover goods transportation, customs declaration and clearance services, warehousing, demand forecasting, and inventory management.
- There are two models adopted by B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers, namely (i) the direct shipping model and (ii) the pre-sale stocking model.
- Direct shipping model is considered as the traditional method of cross-border shipping by which merchandise is shipped to end-consumers directly from the domestic warehouses of the e-commerce vendors upon the orders being placed. It provides more flexibility to e-commerce vendors given that it removes the risk of stagnant overseas inventory.
- Pre-sale stocking model, which is a relatively new model in the industry, refers to the model by which e-commerce vendors first transport their goods to the overseas warehouses in the destination regions in advance for stocking, such that they can deliver the goods directly from the overseas warehouses to the consumers when the end-consumers place orders. This model helps e-commerce vendors bridge the distance between the end-consumers and the goods, improve the quality control of goods, become more time-effective, and allow e-commerce vendors to provide after-sales services such as products returns and exchanges to its end-consumers at a lower cost and quicker turnaround time.

# **B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions**

#### **Direct Shipping Model**

#### **Parcel Post Delivered Services**

Postal parcel is relatively slow, generally applicable to lighter, smaller-volume and low-value goods distribution. The representative service providers are Hongkong Post, China Post and PFC Express.

#### **International Express Services**

International express generally refers to that national express giants such as DHL, UPS, USPS, and FedEX (including TNT), construct their own global networks to provide international express services. International express is relatively expensive, but of high time efficiency. It is generally applicable to the distribution of goods with high requirements for time efficiency and high value.

#### **Dedicated Cross-border Logistics Services**

➤ Dedicated cross-border logistics generally refers to transporting the goods abroad through air freight or ocean freight, and then the domestic delivery in destination countries through the partner company. Dedicated cross-border logistics can reduce costs through scale effect. The representative service providers include Yun Express and Yanwen Express.

#### **Pre-sale Stocking Model**

#### **FBA Overseas Storage and Warehousing**

Amazon sellers transport their products to a local FBA warehouse where Amazon provides warehousing services and other services such as delivery services and overseas warehouses operation services.

#### **Third-party Overseas Storage and Warehousing**

Overseas warehouses managed by e-commerce supply chain solution providers which can also provide overseas storage and warehousing services.

#### **Seller Overseas Storage and Warehousing**

➤ Sellers build their own overseas warehouses and manage the warehouses by themselves.

Source: Frost & Sullivan Analysis

### Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China

Value Chain Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market



• Direct shipping refers to the international shipping process from domestic sellers to overseas individual consumers, which usually takes two to four weeks. After receiving logistics orders from export e-commerce vendors, the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers carry out the corresponding business processes, which involve domestic collection, customs declaration and clearance, cross-border transportation and delivery of goods to individual consumers.

### Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China

Value Chain Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market



- In contrast to direct shipping model, under the pre-sale stocking model, the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers ship the goods from sellers to the overseas warehouses in advance as pre-sale stock in the destination regions, then deliver the goods directly from the overseas warehouses upon the placing of orders by end-consumers. The services can be divided into "first-mile" international freight and "last-mile" fulfillment services.
- "First-mile" international freight services refer to the transport services of goods from vendors to the port of entry of imports. The services of "first-mile" international freight generally include domestic collection services, domestic warehousing storage services, customs declaration and clearance services and cross-border transportation services. Under the presale stocking model, B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers integrate the whole supply chain by outsourcing the whole process to third-party logistics providers which have the ability to provide "first-mile" international freight services.
- "Last-mile" fulfillment services involve delivery from overseas warehouses to individual consumers. For "last-mile" fulfillment services, the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers under the pre-sale stocking model offer warehousing services and other value-added services, including operational services such as picking up and packing, shipping and return processing services, demand forecasting and inventory management services, and other ancillary services such as distribution services and after-sale services that support vendors in selling their products, and co-operate with the fulfillment logistics to deliver goods to individual consumers.

# **Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China Major Participant Analysis**

- There are various types of participants in the market, including end-to-end export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers, international freight forwarding service providers, air/ocean carriers and "last-mile" fulfillment service providers.
- The end-to-end export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers are focused more on value added services by digitalizing the whole process of value chain. The e-commerce enterprises rely on these solutions providers in wish to delivery their products to their overseas end consumers through a track-able solution. On top of that, for some of the e-commerce enterprises that already have their own supply chain infrastructure, end-to-end export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers are also able to supplement their transportation and warehouse capacity during the peak season.

#### **Major Participants**

#### **Business Scope/service Features**

#### **Market Position**

End-to-end Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solution Providers

- End-to-end export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers, leveraging on third-party logistics service providers, ship the goods from sellers to port of entry of import or end consumers, which consist of "first-mile" international freight services and "last-mile" fulfillment service.
- Based on the advantages of comprehensiveness and flexibility, end-to-end export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers can cater to every stage of the product logistics and fulfillment life cycle and have the capacity to provide value-added services.
- The vast majority of end-to-end export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers focus on information consolidation and digitalization of the whole process and do not have their own logistics infrastructures.

International Freight Forwarding Service Providers

- Generally, leveraging the air or ocean carriers, the international freight forwarding service providers focus on the "first-mile" which in charges of the goods shipping from one region to the other region through air or ocean.
- International freight forwarding service providers do not have their own shipping capacity. They consolidate shipping capacities from various air or ocean carriers.
- They collaborate with end-to-end export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers in order to receive more orders from customers.

Air or Ocean Carriers

- Air or ocean carriers traditionally provide shipping service from port of export to port of import through air or ocean, which focus on delivery "first-mile" international freight services.
- Air or ocean carriers invest heavily to build their own shipping logistics network and infrastructure, and provide logistics services to other industry participants.
- Except few large enterprises, most air or ocean carriers focus on one area of the value chain to save cost.

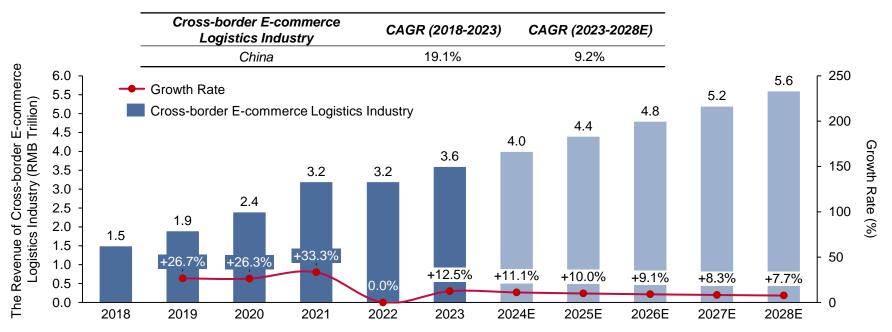
"Last-mile" Fulfillment Service Providers

- "Last-mile" fulfillment service providers generally deliver goods from port or overseas warehouse to end customer, which focus on "last-mile" delivery.
- "Last-mile" fulfillment service providers construct their local logistics network and infrastructure, and provide logistics services to other industry participants.
- Due to heavy investment, most "last-mile" fulfillment service providers focus on part of the value chain to achieve operational efficiency.

### **Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China**

**Cross-border E-commerce Logistics Industry in China** 

#### The Revenue of Cross-border E-commerce Logistics Industry (China), 2018 – 2028E

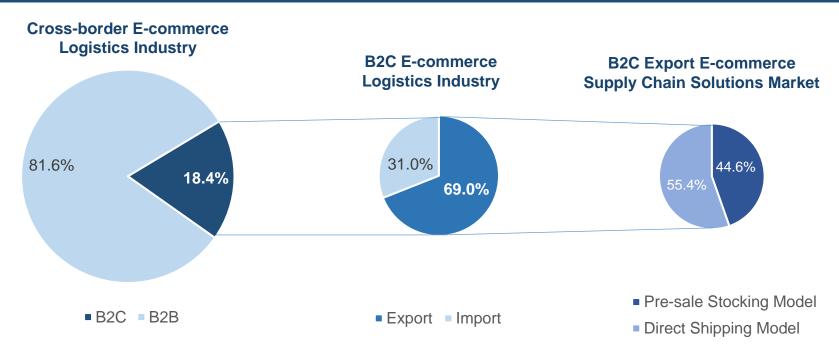


- With the e-commerce and technological advances, consumers can now purchase products from anywhere in the world. The process of shipping products
  overseas requires specialized logistics services to handle the complexities of international shipping, customs clearance, and other related services. This has led
  to the development of cross-border e-commerce logistics services. After China's accession to the WTO in 2001, the development of logistics in China has
  gradually shifted from traditional logistics to modern logistics.
- Driven by economic growth, the logistics experienced a high-quality development. The market size of cross-border e-commerce logistics includes revenues generated by both domestic and non-PRC-based logistics providers for cross-border e-commerce logistics. The market size of cross-border e-commerce logistics increased from RMB1.5 trillion in 2018 to RMB3.6 trillion in 2023, representing a CAGR of 19.1%. After the COVID-19 outbreak, ports had experienced congestion and extended unloading cycles. In addition, in March 2021, the Suez Canal obstruction resulted in insufficient capacity in short term, leading to a shortage of market supply and skyrocketing shipping rates. The outbreak of COVID-19 and the Suez Canal blockage had an impact on the global shipping industry, affecting domestic transport providers, retailers, manufacturers, and other related groups. Therefore, the market size of cross-border e-commerce logistics industry reached RMB3.2 trillion in 2021. By 2028, the figure is expected to reach RMB5.6 trillion, with a CAGR of 9.2% from 2023 to 2028.

Source: General Administration of Customs. Frost & Sullivan

# Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China Cross-border E-commerce Logistics Industry in China

#### The Revenue of Cross-border E-commerce Logistics Industry (China), 2023



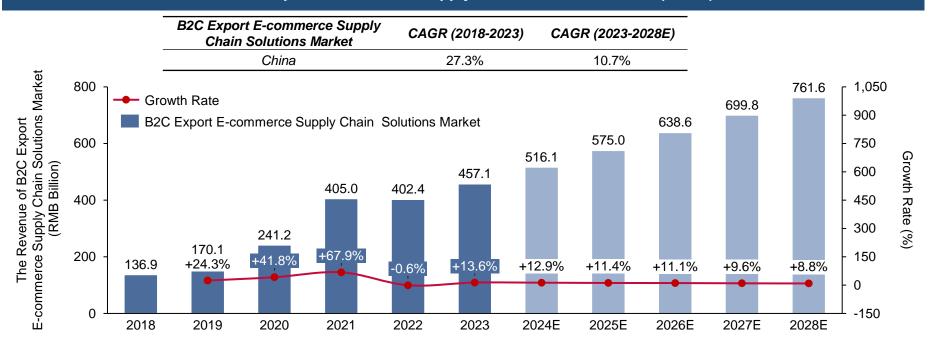
- As illustrated by figures in 2023, according to the type of e-commerce, cross-border e-commerce logistics industry can be divided into B2C e-commerce logistics industry and B2B e-commerce logistics industry, which accounted for 18.4% and 81.6%, respectively.
   Moreover, B2C e-commerce logistics industry can be further divided into export and import, which accounted for 69.0% and 31.0% in 2023, respectively.
- As one of the segments of cross-border e-commerce logistics industry, the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market accounted for 11.9% in cross-border e-commerce logistics industry in 2023. Moreover, the pre-sale stocking model and the direct shipping model of the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market, which accounted of 5.3% and 6.6% in cross-border e-commerce logistics industry in 2023, respectively.

Source: General Administration of Customs. Frost & Sullivan

### Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China

**B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market** 

#### The Revenue of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market (China), 2018 - 2028E



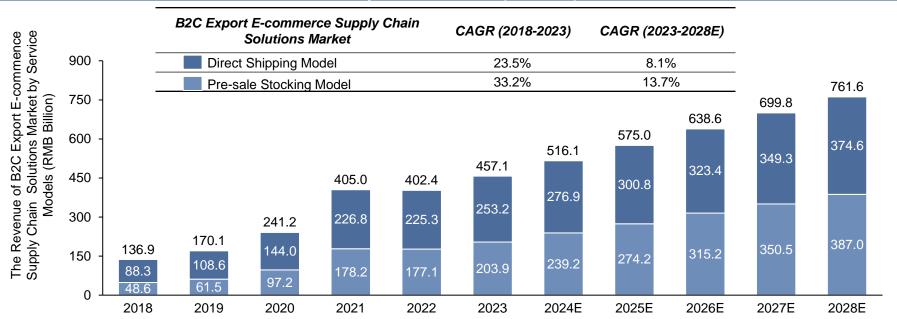
• The export e-commerce supply chain solutions market grew significantly during the past few years. Particularly, the market size of B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market increased more swiftly, with a CAGR of 27.3% from RMB136.9 billion in 2018 to RMB457.1 billion in 2023. Between 2019 and 2020, the outbreak of the COVID-19, which boosted the demand for online shopping, was the main driving factor behind the significant rise in the demand for B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions. In 2028, the market size is projected to reach RMB761.6 billion, with a CAGR of 10.7% from 2023 to 2028. Generally, B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market can be divided into the pre-sale stocking model and the direct shipping model.

Source: Drewry, ICAO Air Transport Report, Freightos FBX, SCFI and Frost & Sullivan Analysis

### Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China

**B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market by Service Models** 

# The Revenue of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market by Service Models (The PRC), 2018 – 2028E



#### Pre-sale stocking model

- In recent years, pre-sale stocking model is becoming more popular, as it can provide individual consumers with faster and more predictable delivery times which could optimize their shopping experience. During 2018 to 2023, the market size of the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions adopting the pre-sale stocking model increased from RMB48.6 billion to RMB203.9 billion with a CAGR of 33.2%.
- Between 2019 and 2021, during the outbreak of the COVID-19, not only did end-consumers develop an online shopping habit, many e-commerce vendors also realized the advantages of the pre-sale stocking model due to the occurrence of pandemic-caused port congestions and prolonged cargo unloading cycles in 2021. Correspondingly, the market size of B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions adopting the pre-sale stocking model experienced a sharp rise during 2019 to 2021. However, in 2022, with the recovery of the COVID-19, offline shopping gradual results and the market size of the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions with pre-sale stocking model slightly decreased. Furthermore, since the Houthis have seized and launched aerial attacks against merchant and naval vessels in the Red Seas in October 2023, vessels have to bypass the Suez Canal and navigate around South Africa's Cape of Good Hoper. As a result, seabonne transportation from the PRC to Middle East was affected, leading to higher freight rates, lower shipping capacity and longer transportation times. With a CAGR of 13.7% from 2023 to 2028, the market size of B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions adopting the pre-sale stocking model is projected to reach RMB387, o billion in 2028.

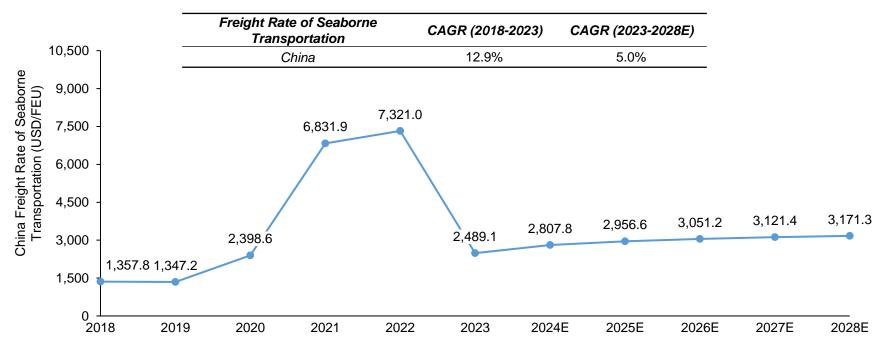
#### Direct shipping model

- From 2018 to 2023, the market size of the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions with direct shipping model grew at a CAGR of 23.5% from RMB88.3 billion to RMB253.2 billion. Affected by the declining freight rate, the market size experienced a downward trend in 2022. However, with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict which took place in the second half of 2023 and the extreme weather such as heavy rain and snow in the U.S. from October 2023, the air freight rate had an increase. Accordingly, the market size of B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions adopting the direct shipping model is predicted to reach RMB374.6 billion in 2028, with a CAGR of 81.7% from 2023 to 2028.
- The expected recovery of the market size of B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions adopting the direct shipping model was based on the following assumptions: (i) The direct shipping mode usually adopt air shipping and its market size is closely tied with the air freight rate. The freight rate has experienced a rapid growth during COVID-19 due to an increased demand arising from poularity of online shopping and resumed to normal post pandemic given the growing supply for the air shipping capacity. Since the pandemic, the cross-border flights were gradually resuming and alleviating the shortage of air shipping capacity, the freight rate resumed to a round US\$3,500 per tonne in the first half of 2023, similar to the breather range prior to the outbreak of COVID-19 as a step second half of the year is usually the peak season for e-commerce, recommerce, freight rates are expected to increase compared to the first half of the year. Meanwhile, from October 2023, the U.S. experienced the effects of extreme weather such as heavy rain and snow, which reduced the supply for the air shipping capacity, increasing air freight rates as a result. At the same time, due to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, air freight rate started to improve in the second half of 2023. However, as the end of the conflict is uncertain, it is expected that air freight rate will continue to increase, resulting in further development of the market of B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions adopting the direct shipping model in the future. (ii) In the post-COVID-19 period, the infrastructure of B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions were further developed. As a result, the market size of B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions were further developed. As a result, the market size of B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions were further developed.

Source: Drewry, ICAO Air Transport Report, Freightos FBX, SCFI and Frost & Sullivan Analysis

# Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China Cost Analysis (1/2)

#### China Freight Rate of Seaborne Transportation in B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market, 2018 - 2028E

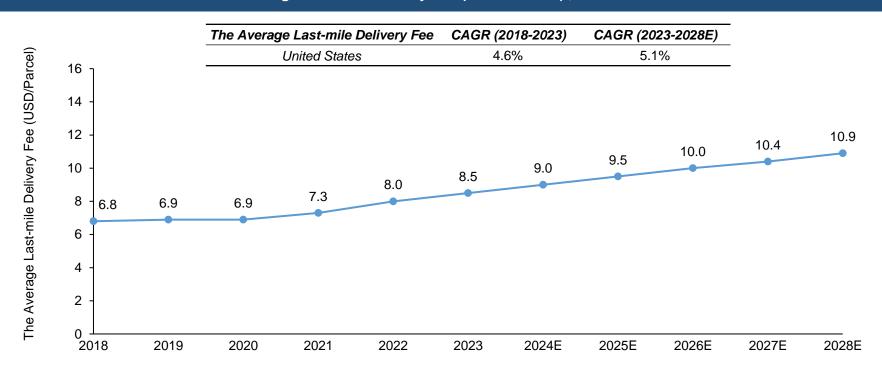


- · The main costs for most B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers are freight rate of seaborne transportation and "last-mile" fulfillment delivery fee.
- Before 2020, the freight rate of seaborne transportation from the PRC maintained steady and was kept under US\$1,400 per FEU. The global outbreak and spread of the COVID-19 in 2020 led to a surge in online shopping. Consequently, as major ports had limited capacity to deal with the huge increase in freight volume, there was an uneven distribution of seaborne freight capacity globally during the epidemic era, which had eventually led to an increase of the freight rate of seaborne transportation. The freight rate of seaborne transportation rose and peaked at US\$2,489.1 per FEU in 2023 from US\$1,357.8 per FEU in 2018, with a CAGR of 12.9%. As recovery of shipping capacity, the China Average Composite Containerized Freight Index had been decreased since August 2022. However, since the Houthis have seized and launched aerial attacks against merchant and naval vessels in the Red Seas in October 2023, vessels have to bypass the Suez Canal and navigate around South Africa's Cape of Good Hoper. As a result, seaborne transportation from the PRC to Middle East was affected, leading to higher freight rates, lower shipping capacity and longer transportation times. The PRC freight rate of seaborne transportation is predicted to increase to US\$3,171.3 per FEU in 2028, with a CAGR of 5.0% from 2023 to 2028

Note: An FEU (Forty-foot equivalent unit) is a measure of volume in units of 40-foot long centainers. Drewry, ICAO Air Transport Report, Freightos FBX, SCFI and Frost & Sullivan Analysis

# Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China Cost Analysis (2/2)

#### The Average Last-mile Delivery Fee (United States), 2018 - 2028E



A continuous increase in the average "last-mile" fulfillment delivery fee in the United States has been witnessed in recent years, which results in a growing cost for B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers. From 2018 to 2023, the average "last-mile" fulfillment delivery fee in the United States increased from US\$6.8 per parcel in 2018 to US\$8.5 per parcel in 2023, with a CAGR of 4.6% from 2018 to 2023. In 2028, the average "last-mile" fulfillment delivery fee in the United States is expected to reach US\$10.9 per parcel, with an expected CAGR of 5.1% from 2023 to 2028.

# **Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China Market Drivers (1/2)**

#### **Major Drivers**

- 1 Government support
- 2 Rapid development of B2C export e-commerce market



Major Drivers	Description
Government support	In recent years, the PRC government introduced some supportive policies to drive the development of the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market. For example, the General Office of the People's Government of Guangdong Province issued "Notice on a Number of Policy Measures to Promote the High-quality Development of Cross-border E-commerce*"(《關於推進跨境電商高質量發展若干政策措施的通知》)in 2021 striving to build 500 overseas warehouses with a total area exceeding 4 million sq.m., and gradually form a professional and intelligent overseas warehouse network. Additionally, the Ministry of Commerce issued "Notice of Several Policy Measures to Support the Stable Development of Foreign Trade(《支持外貿穩定發展若干政策措施的通知》)" in 2022, further drive social capital and coordinate the use of foreign trade development special funds and other existing funding channels to jointly support the development of cross-border e-commerce, overseas warehouses, and other new forms of foreign trade. Moreover, "the Report on the Work of the Government (《政府工作報告》)" in 2023 encourages to develop of new forms of foreign trade that the government plans to set up 152 new cross-border e-commerce pilot zones and support the construction of a number of overseas warehouses. Thus, the government's supportive policies have stimulated the development of the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market.
Rapid development of B2C export e- commerce market	The increased cross-border online shopping activities and rapid development of e-commerce continue to drive the demand for B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions. The development of the internet further accelerated changes in overseas consumers' shopping habits and the booming demand for online shopping stimulated growth of the export e-commerce market, which in turn created opportunities for the growth of B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market. In addition, according to the General Administration of Customs in the PRC, in the first two months of 2024, the exports of goods trade in the PRC reached RMB3.75 trillion, with an increase of 10.3% from the same period in 2023. With the growth of exports of goods trade, the market of cross-border export e-commerce is also expanding. More goods enter the international market by e-commerce platforms, which drives the growth of demand for B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions.  **Source: Frost & Sullivan Analysis**

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# Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China Market Drivers (2/2)

#### **Major Drivers**

- 3 The popularity of pre-sale stocking model
- 4 Application of new technologies



Major Drivers	Description
The popularity of pre-sale stocking model	In recent years, more e-commerce vendors prefer to engage B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers who adopt the pre-sale stocking model. Under the pre-sale stocking model, goods are shipped directly from the overseas warehouses after a consumer has placed an order, which shortens the delivery time of "last-mile" fulfillment services. In addition, under this model, the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers offer after-sale services such as product returns and exchange services, resulting in an improvement of overall efficiency.
Application of new technologies	The application of new technologies, such as SaaS solution and big data, has been promoting B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers to save costs and improve efficiency. For example, the application of SaaS solution enables B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers to offer more services such as supply chain visibility and control, supporting sellers' omni-channel operation through consolidating all orders. Moreover, the use of intelligent robots in goods sorting and goods storing plays an important role in achieving the reduction in labor costs. In addition, the application of big data and other technologies enables B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers to optimize the overall path of B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions, which could save cost and help clients shorten the lead time of their goods.

Source: Frost & Sullivan Analysis

# **Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China Entry Barriers**

#### **Entry Barriers**

#### **Industry knowledge**

• The value chain of the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market is highly complicated with different local regulations and various types of service providers involved, such as freight forwarding service providers and fulfillment logistics service providers. The existing experienced B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers in the market have already accumulated extensive industry knowledge, thus they could overcome the underlying obstacles and mitigate uncertainties during the provision of services such as arrival and customs declaration and clearance services, warehousing and storage services. However, it is difficult for new entrants to accumulate sufficient industry knowledge within a short period of time, which creates an entry barrier for them.

# Developing long-term collaboration relationships with customers and industry participants

• The long-term collaboration and diverse client base contribute to a sustainable demand for B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions. Specifically, the large customer base and solid customer relationships guarantee an ever-increasing scale and frequency of orders, allowing market players to fully utilize resources and infrastructure. Over time, the experienced B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers have developed symbiotic relationships with freight forwarding service providers and maintained deep collaboration relationships with "last-mile" fulfillment service providers in this market. It is difficult for new entrants to build the same level of cooperative relationships with customers and market participants in the short term.

#### **Technology**

Application of technologies such as big data and digitalization technologies in the provision of B2C export e-commerce supply
chain solutions enables solutions providers to consolidate and analyze information from different sources, optimize service quality
and promote efficiency. The continued adoption of these technologies provides both e-commerce vendors as well as consumers
with higher operational efficiency and service quality. However, new entrants are normally unable to proficiently apply these
technologies within a short period of time due to limited resources and industry experience.

#### **Overseas local expertise**

Overseas local expertise is another entry barrier for new entrants. For example, along with the long-term operation, the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers have accumulated local knowledge and professional experience in the overseas market, which greatly improves these solutions providers' operational efficiency. In addition, a comprehensive network can meet customers' ever-changing demands by providing flexible and diverse e-commerce supply chain solutions. However, it is difficult for new entrants to build their own pool of overseas local resources in the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market in the short run.

Source: Frost & Sullivan Analysis

# **Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China Market Trends**

# Integrated supply chain solution platform

• The B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market is complex and involves multiple parties including end-to-end export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers, international freight forwarding service providers, air or ocean carriers, and "last-mile" fulfillment service providers, etc., therefore, it is especially important for B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers to obtain and integrate the scattered resources of the whole value chain to form an end-to-end one-stop B2C export e-commerce supply chain solution platform in the future. The integrated platform can facilitate real-time data integration and sharing, thus reduce the time required for each process, ensure better supply chain timeliness, further gain customer recognition, and ultimately achieve the goal of increasing revenue. In addition, the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers could offer value-added services, such as providing advice on stocking to help sellers optimize stocking and merchandise selections.

#### **Digitalization**

In recent years, digitalization creates strong growth potential for the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market. B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers leverage various types of digital applications such as SaaS and IoT to simplify transaction processes, improve supply chain solutions efficiency and increase consumer stickiness. With the support of digitalization tools, solutions providers in the market gradually reduce their operating cost, which could in turn increase their profit.

# Popularity of partnered overseas warehousing model

• In recent years, the partnered warehousing model is becoming more popular and it is expected to be widely adopted by the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers in the future, mainly due to the following advantages. Firstly, the service providers under the partnered warehousing model can save rental cost of the overseas storage and warehousing, thus reducing the capital expenditure. Moreover, the partnered warehousing model is scaleable allowing B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers to easily expand its existing network of warehouses, especially for those who have solid technology foundation and strong management capabilities. Therefore, it is expected that more and more industry participants will prefer to choose the partnered warehousing model in the future.

Source: Frost & Sullivan Analysis

**Future Opportunities** 

#### Content

- 1 Analysis of Export E-commerce Market in China
- 2 Analysis of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China
- 3 Competitive Landscape of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China
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# Competitive Landscape of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Market in China

#### Ranking and Market Share in China

Top 10 B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions Providers of B2C Export E-commerce Supply Chain Solutions with Pre-sale Stocking Model (the PRC), 2023

Ranking	Company Name	Market Share (%)
1	Shenzhen YKD Technology Co., Ltd	2.0%
2	4PX Worldwide Express Co., Ltd.	1.6%
3	Winit (Shanghai) Information Technology Co., Ltd.	1.5%
4	Western Post (SZ) Co.,Ltd.	1.2%
5	Wuyouda (Ningbo) Logistics Technology Co., Ltd.	0.9%
I I 6 I	Our Group	0.5%
7	YQN Logistics Co., Ltd.	0.5%
8	Loctek Ergonomic Technology Corp.	0.5%
9	World Depot Inc.	0.2%
10	Guangzhou BFE Co.,Ltd.	0.2%
Top 10		9.1%

Note: 1. All B2C export e-commerce supply chain solution providers in the list are third-party companies.

- The B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market in the PRC is rather fragmented with more than 4,000 market players, among which some adopt the direct shipping model and some adopt the pre-sale stocking model. Sometimes, for the convenience of the customers, B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers adopt both the direct shipping model and the pre-sale stocking model. Compared with the industry participants focusing on small packages, those B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers which focus on medium and large packages generally have some differential advantages, such as higher gross profit margins and customer loyalty. Deliverers of medium and large parcels generally charge a premium as medium and large parcels come in more shapes and sizes, which need to be attended to with special care. Regardless, the e-commerce vendors are willing to choose a B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions provider which has the industry expertise to handle medium and large parcels and ensure the efficiency of the warehousing and outbound process. Therefore, the B2C export ecommerce supply chain solutions providers focusing on medium and large parcels usually have more bargaining power than others and gain a higher gross profit margin. In terms of revenue in 2023, the top 10 B2C export ecommerce supply chain solutions providers in the PRC accounted for approximately 9.1%.
- In terms of revenue in 2023, our Group ranked sixth among all B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers primarily utilizing pre-sale stocking model in the PRC, with a market share of approximately 0.5%. Our Group accounted for approximately 0.1% of the entire export e-commerce supply chain solutions market in the PRC in 2023. In addition, our Group is one of the largest B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers adopting the partnered overseas warehousing model in the PRC.

Source: Annual Reports, Interviews Conducted by Frost & Sullivan with Experts from Leading Market Players and Frost & Sullivan Analysis

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#### **Abbreviations and Terms**

#### **Abbreviations and Terms**

- CAGR: compound annual growth rate
- · China: if not specified refers to mainland of China, excluding Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macau
- GDP: gross domestic product
- GMV: gross merchandises value
- R&D: research & development
- RMB: renminbi, the lawful currency of the PRC
- SaaS: software as a service

#### **Limitations in Source of Information**

- Interviews with end-users, venders, and distributors are conducted to collect information for this report, based on a best-efforts basis.
- Frost & Sullivan will not be responsible for any information gaps where interviewees have refused to divulge confidential data or figures.
- In instances where information is not available, figures based on similar indicators combined with Frost & Sullivan in-house analysis will be deployed to arrive at an estimate.
- Frost & Sullivan will state the information sources at the bottom right-hand corner of each slide for easy reference.

#### **Note to Numeric Calculations**

- Value and percentage figures in this report are all rounded. Figures may not add up to the respective totals owing to rounding.
- The base year is 2023. The historic period is from 2018 to 2022. The forecast period is from 2024 to 2028.

### Methodologies

- Frost & Sullivan is an independent global consulting firm, which was founded in 1961 in New York. It offers industry research and market strategies and provides growth consulting and corporate training. Its industry coverage in the PRC includes automotive and transportation, chemicals, materials and food, commercial aviation, consumer products, energy and power systems, environment and building technologies, healthcare, industrial automation and electronics, industrial and machinery, and technology, media and telecom.
- The Frost & Sullivan's report includes information on analysis of export e-commerce market in China, analysis of B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market in China, and competitive landscape of B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions market in China, etc.
- The market research process for this study has been undertaken through detailed primary research which involves discussing the status of the industry with leading industry participants and industry experts. Secondary research involved reviewing company reports, independent research reports and data based on Frost & Sullivan's own research database.
- Projected total market size was obtained from historical data analysis plotted against macroeconomic data as well as specific related industry drivers.
- Frost & Sullivan's report was compiled based on the below assumptions:
  - The global economy and China's economy are likely to maintain steady growth in the next decade;
  - China's social, economic, and political environment is likely to remain stable in the forecast period;
  - Market drivers like increasing urbanization rate, policy supports from governments, growing of economy, stable growth of foreign trade, continuous development of network technology, etc. will drive the development of the B2C export ecommerce supply chain solutions market;
  - China's export of foreign trade is likely to remain stable in the forecast period;
  - The network technology is likely to continue to develop in the next decade;
  - The COVID-19 is likely to affect the stability of China's macro economy in the short term.

- According to Frost & Sullivan, settlement of transactions through third-party payors is common in the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions industry.
- FedEx had been the one of the largest fulfillment logistics service providers globally by market capitalization according to the Industry Report.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, our global logistics network covers the key export markets of China's B2C export e-commerce industry as of the Latest Practicable Date.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, we had one of the largest networks of overseas partnered warehouses among our peers.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, we are able to serve the majority of trade lanes originating from the PRC through the maintenance of an extensive portfolio of over 480 third-party logistics service providers during the Track Record Period, which includes third-party warehouse service providers, international freight forwarding service providers, ocean carriers, air carriers and local "last-mile" fulfillment service providers.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, we invested a cumulative amount of approximately RMB50.2 million in our R&D activities during the Track Record Period, which accounted for 3.0% of our revenue, which is higher than the industry average.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, brand-owners and manufacturers are generally considered as high-quality customers due to their abilities of generating consistent income and their general propensity for sustainable growth.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, we had one of the largest network of overseas partnered warehouses among our peers.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, settlement of transactions through third-party payors is common in the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions industry.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, the B2C export e-commerce industry in the Southeast Asia region and certain areas of Europe has experienced accelerated growth.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, the "first-mile" international freight services in the PRC is competitive and may entail relatively lower profitability.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, unlike logistics service providers which cater to only one subset of our customers' supply chain needs, owing to our pre-sale stocking capabilities and EDA Cloud platform, Our Group are able to provide solutions which cater to every element of the logistics value chain and provide our customers with a range of choices for each subset of the supply chain solutions. Due to the multi-layer and multi-party nature of B2C export e-commerce transactions, the B2C ecosystem is becoming increasingly complex.
- According to Frost & Sullivan and our Directors, the outbreak of COVID-19 in 2020 has led to change of consumer behaviours towards online shopping, which drove up the demand of local delivery services.

- According to Frost & Sullivan, Our Group act as the single point for all of our customers' supply chain needs, which is not something that is offered by traditional service providers in the logistics value chain (such as ocean or air carriers, or "last-mile" fulfillment service providers).
- According to Frost & Sullivan, Our Group provide our customers with various tools on the EDA Cloud platform to optimize their supply chain management abilities through order tracking and inventory management.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, while "last-mile" fulfillment service providers may be engaged to assist in the delivery in reverse logistics and has warehousing functions, the services provided by the service providers are not specific nor do they cater to the pre-sale stocking needs of our customers. As "last-mile" fulfillment service providers are mostly focused on providing services in relation to the physical delivery aspect of the fulfillment step for its customers, any ancillary services which it may provide, such as warehousing or reverse logistics, are limited in scope.

Participant	Reverse Logistics	
Our Group	Coordination of product returns and the subsequent processing of returned goods, such as destruction of unwanted goods, repackaging of goods, updating the customers' inventory records, and collecting customer feedback on product return reasons.	
"last-mile" fulfillment service providers	Pick up and delivery of returned goods to designated location based on already generated return labels. It will not arrange for pick up or package or help repackage the goods.	

- According to Frost & Sullivan, Our Group as one of the first companies to offer one-stop end-to-end supply chain solutions using the pre-sale stocking model in the PRC.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, e-commerce vendors or solutions providers which have a high level of shipping volume enjoy better rates from "last-mile" fulfillment service providers.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, the average fulfillment volume of e-commerce vendors of smaller scale in the PRC does not always meet the various annual fulfillment value threshold that allows them to enjoy discounts from "last-mile" fulfillment service providers.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, the application of new technologies, such as SaaS solution and big data, has been promoting B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions providers to save costs and improve efficiency.

- According to Frost & Sullivan, it is a common industry practice for e-commerce vendors to engage supply chain solution providers to provide one-stop end-to-end supply chain solutions to in turn simultaneously engage multiple logistics service providers for various services, and on less frequent occasions, just the "first-mile" international freight services or the "last-mile" fulfillment services. Unlike third-party service providers, the main responsibilities of which are to ensure delivery or warehousing, we position ourself as a solution provider which links up different service providers so as to render a customized, cohesive and cost-effective supply solutions which fits our customers' unique needs.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, such reasons for utilizing Tri-Party Settlement Arrangements by Relevant Customers are common in the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions industry.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, the nature of the B2C e-commerce supply chain solutions industry allows the customers to top up their account credits through various electronic payment methods including the most popular payment applications in the PRC.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, it is common for e-commerce vendors to deliver goods valued at US\$800 or less to the U.S. and enjoy the tariff
  exemption in order to lower the logistics costs, given that most cross-border e-commerce sellers are focused on the B2C (Business-to-Consumer)
  business model, accounting for over 60% of all cross-border e-commerce sellers in the PRC, and under the B2C business model, about 80% to 90%
  of the sellers focuses on delivering small goods, of which about 80% to 90% are priced below US\$800.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, if the Tariff Exemption is restricted, Chinese e-commerce vendors which have target end-consumers in the U.S. may choose to pass on the costs to end-consumers, absorb the extra fees themselves, or combine the two options. Nevertheless, according to Frost & Sullivan, end-consumers in the U.S. would still likely continue to purchase China-origin products that they purchase before such changes, as these products would still be of relatively low price even after the changes in the Tariff Exemption as mentioned above.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, increases in prices induced by the potential changes in the Tariff Exemption are not likely to materially change U.S. consumer's purchasing decisions. The vast majority of goods exported from China to the U.S. are items that U.S. consumers are relatively less price-sensitive to, meaning changes in prices of these items are not as likely to affect already-existing consumer behavior and decisions as the same in some other items. In addition, according to Frost & Sullivan, past increases in tariff indicated that increases in tariff had not historically materially affected the volume and value of exports of China-origin goods to the U.S. In 2018, the U.S. government announced two plans to impose a 25% tariff on approximately US\$50 billion worth of Chinese goods and a 10% tariff on US\$200 billion worth of Chinese goods. Subsequently, the total value of goods exported from China to the U.S. decreased from RMB3.2 trillion in 2018 to RMB2.9 trillion in 2019, and then rose from RMB3.1 trillion in 2020 to RMB3.7 trillion in 2021 and reached RMB3.9 trillion in 2022. Based on historical data, changes in tariff for goods exported from China to the U.S., albeit with limited impact on shipping volume, are not likely to have significant impact on shipping volume in the long run.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, brand-owners and manufacturers are generally considered as high-quality customers due to their ability to generate consistent income and their general propensity for sustainable growth.

- According to Frost & Sullivan, since the B2C e-commerce markets in the countries, including United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany and Australia, present massive opportunities given their respective expected economic growths and expected growths as destination markets for B2C e-commerce orders.
- As confirmed by Frost & Sullivan, it is typical for "first-mile" international freight services and "last-mile" fulfillment services to have a wide fee range as the price varies depending on the size of the goods warehoused/delivered. As parcels of medium and large size require a higher level of care and treatment, the price difference between small parcel to large parcel may not be directly proportionate. As such, it is common for there to be a wide fee range for goods stored or delivered.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, settlement of transactions through Payors is common in the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions industry in the PRC given the multi-layered nature of the supply chain and logistics operations. The nature of the B2C e-commerce supply chain solutions industry allows the customers to top up their account credits through various electronic payment methods including the most popular payment applications in the PRC.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, such reasons for utilizing Tri-Party Settlement Arrangements by Relevant Customers are common in the B2C export e-commerce supply chain solutions industry.
- As confirmed with Frost & Sullivan, since freight rate is not part of the consideration in determining the price per order in "last-mile" fulfillment services, the fluctuation in freight rate have no impact on our average price per order delivered and the financial performance of "last-mile" fulfillment services.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, the size of products delivered have a direct impact on the profitability of "last-mile" fulfillment services.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, small sized parcels are considered to be parcels that weigh less than 0.5kg, medium sized parcels are considered to be parcels that weigh between 0.5kg and 10kg and large parcels are considered to be parcels that weigh more than 10kg.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, among our 55 overseas warehouses, 45 are partnered warehouses, making our network of partnered overseas warehouses one of the largest among our peers.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, while "last-mile" fulfillment service providers may be engaged to assist in the delivery in reverse logistics, these providers generally do not participate in the coordination of product returns and the subsequent processing of returned goods, such as destruction of unwanted goods, repackaging of goods, updating the customers' inventory records, and collecting customer feedback on product return reasons, all of which are services that our Group offer as part of our reverse logistics. Further, as these service provider's warehouse networks are generally positioned for temporary transit, instead of mid-term storage pending an undetermined fulfillment date, they place less focus on warehousing services than supply chain solutions providers like our Group.

- · According to Frost & Sullivan, medium and large sized parcels entailed relatively higher prices and higher profitability.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, the outbreak of COVID-19 since 2020 may drive up the freight rate from suppliers as compared to that of FY2019, hence, the service charges per FEU and tonne increased from 2019 to 2020.
- According to Frost & Sullivan new market entrants are faced with entry barriers such as accumulating extensive industry knowledge, developing long-term collaboration relationships with customers and industry participants application of technologies such as big data, visualization technologies and optimize service quality and promote process efficiency.
- According to Frost & Sullivan, during the outbreak of the COVID-19 between 2019 and 2021, not only did end-consumers develop an online shopping habit, many e-commerce vendors also realized the advantages of the pre-sale stocking model due to the occurrence of pandemic-caused port congestions and prolonged unloading cycles in 2021, which led to growing popularity of pre-sale stocking model.

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Joint Bookrunners, Joint Lead Managers, Capital Market Intermediaries	ABCI Capital Limited	11/F, Agricultural Bank of China Tower, 50 Connaught Road Central, Hong Kong
Joint Bookrunners, Joint Lead Managers, Capital Market Intermediaries	ABCI Securities Company Limited	10/F, Agricultural Bank of China Tower, 50 Connaught Road Central, Hong Kong
Joint Bookrunners, Joint Lead Managers, Capital Market Intermediaries	BOCI Asia Limited	26/F, Bank of China Tower, 1 Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong
Joint Bookrunners, Joint Lead Managers, Capital Market Intermediaries	CEB International Capital Corporation Limited	35/F, Everbright Centre, 108 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong
Joint Bookrunners, Joint Lead Managers, Capital Market Intermediaries	China Galaxy International Securities (Hong Kong) Co., Limited	20/F Wing On Centre, 111 Connaught Road, Central, Hong Kong

## **Addressees of this Report**

Capacity	Name	Address
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Joint Lead Managers, Capital Market Intermediaries	Futu Securities International (Hong Kong) Limited	34/F, United Centre, No. 95 Queensway, Admiralty, Hong Kong
Joint Lead Managers, Capital Market Intermediaries	Tiger Brokers (HK) Global Limited	1/F, No. 308 Des Voeux Road Central, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong
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