



PACKAGING 101

PACKAGING FACTS

- Packaging is one of the many factors considered when investigating the validity of a freight claim.
- It's not uncommon to see extremely valuable equipment that being shipped using minimal packaging materials.
- One of the leading causes for the declination of a freight claim is poor packaging.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PACKAGING?

- It is the responsibility of the shipper to tender freight that is adequately packed to withstand the normal hazards of transportation for any claim to be valid.

HOW DOES IMPROPER PACKAGING AFFECT ME?

- It's much easier to take a little extra time and money when packaging your product, than to have your client endure the delays associated with the product possibly being damaged due to the poor packaging.
- Improper Packaging affects more than just your client. When you have to re-fill and re-ship the order, you essentially end up doing twice the work for one sale.

WHAT CAN I DO TO REDUCE DAMAGE?

While it's difficult to address how to package all types of products, we strongly recommend

- Use ISPM 15 compliant pallets and lumber
- Secure your cargo to the pallets using bolts, screws or strapping.
- Cartons on pallets should be shrink-wrapped tightly to avoid shifting in transit.
- Pallets should be stacked high enough to maximize shipping capacity but not so high that the cartons on the bottom will be compromised.
- Depending upon the value and sensitivity of your product, it may be appropriate to use additional padding, vapor barrier, shock sensors or 'tip and tell' indicators.

RULE OF THUMBS

If you're shipping an expensive piece of equipment and you want it to arrive intact, do not increase the chance for damage by going lean on the packaging. You know your product better than anyone and know what it can and cannot withstand. It's far better to have too much packaging than not enough.

VISUAL EXAMPLE



When driving your car, take notice to how much your sunglasses slide around on the dashboard of your car. In the same regard, think about your expensive product riding along multiple highways with unfriendly road conditions or just being handled repeatedly as it makes its way from your dock to your client. All of which takes a toll on the packaging. Are you tendering your freight to a carrier in a manner that could withstand the hazards of transportation as required?