

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LOADING A REEFER CONTAINER TO OPTIMISE CARGO QUALIT

DO NOT RUN REEFER WITH DOORS OPEN



When the ambient temperature is warmer than the cargo, operating the reefer with the rear doors open will NOT cool down the cargo. The introduction of hot ambient air will heat up the cargo instead.

When hot humid air enters the reefer, moisture condenses on the cold cooling coil and turns to ice. Ethylene entering the reefer from genset exhaust may cause ripening of fresh produce. Exhaust odour may give product off-flavours. Cooled air escapes out the rear door, and the cycle continues.

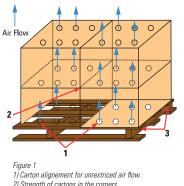
Once loading is complete and the doors are closed the reefer could run for hours with a partially iced up cooling coil, reducing its cooling effect, and putting the cargo in danger until the unit completes a defrost cycle.

PACKAGING FROZEN & CHILLED NON-LIVE PRODUCTS

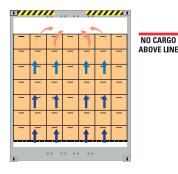
Frozen and most chilled non-live-products do not require air holes in the top and bottom of the cartons. Air flowing around the load is sufficient to remove heat, which has penetrated into the container. The cartons should be stacked directly on top of each other to take advantage of their strength in the corners. If palletised, the corners of each carton should be supported directly by the pallet.

PACKAGING CHILLED LIVE FRESH FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND ORNAMENTALS

- Cartons require airflow holes on top and bottom so that when stacked they align with adjacent cartons. The number, placement, size, and shape of the air holes are determined by the product being packaged.
- If transporting with Humidity Control, use wax impregnated cardboard or other materials that will not lose strength in high humidity environments.
- The strength of a carton is its corners. Stack cartons directly on top of each other to minimize crushing of the carton below.



2) Strength of cartons in the corners 3) Corners of cartons supported



GENERAL REEFER CARGO CHECK LIST – DO:

- "Frozen" or "Chilled" Follow Cargo Specifics as required (at right) Assure floor and drains are free of debris
- Block stow entire load in REGISTERED MAIL Assure weight is distributed evenly
- in container for maximum stability Cover the entire floor
- ✓ If palletised, place dunnage in centre channel between pallets
- Block and brace cargo as necessary Ensure total weight of cargo, container,
- chassis, genset, and truck are within legal limits
- Set unit at optimal carrying temperature

IF LOADING CARGO ON PALLETS

- Place cartons on the pallets so that air flows up into the cartons unrestricted. The corners of each carton should be
- supported directly by the pallet. If wrapping pallets with plastic to provide
- stability, do not cover bottom or top of cartons.

"THINGS TO DO"

SIDE 1, above, illustrates the correct way to load a "Bottom-Air" reefer with chilled or frozen cargo. In the case of live chilled cargo, covering the entire floor with cargo forces the cool air to flow through the cartons and product throughout the container. When frozen cargo is loaded in this manner the cold airflows around the cargo blanketing the cartons and removing any heat, which enters the reefer container through the walls.

"THINGS NOT TO DO"

Air always takes the path of least resistance. To the right are five examples, which illustrate improperly loaded reefer cargo. In three of these cases (SIDE 2-4) air tends to "short circuit" or flow past the cartons/product rather than through them. SIDE 5 & 6 illustrate restricted airflow scenarios.

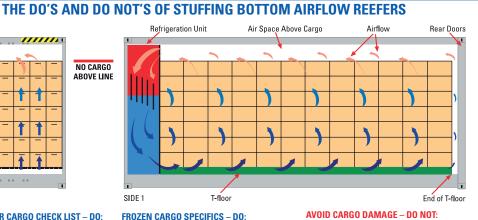
BLOCKING & BRACING

Block and brace cargo as necessary using wood. Do not nail dunnage or wood to the container.

Cover floor between pallets to help force air through cargo (as seen in the top view TOP 4, right)

Cover the ends of the last two pallets in order to force air up and through the cartons. Do not block off airflow past the end of the T-floor.

Filler (Dunnage or Cardboard) Wood Bracing



FROZEN CARGO SPECIFICS - DO:

- Follow General Reefer Cargo Check List (at left)
- Pre-freeze cargo before loading
- Ensure fresh-air vent is CLOSED

CHILLED CARGO SPECIFICS – DO:

- 1 Follow General Reefer Cargo Check List (at left)
- Set unit at carrying temperature, not lower (lower set point will not expedite cooling process and may damage cargo)
- Set fresh-air vent as required

X Do not leave floor space at front bulkhead

Do not run unit with rear doors open

Do not plug channels at end of T-floor

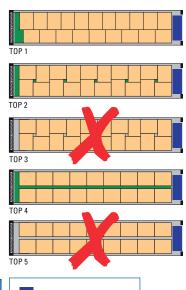
Do not load cargo above the red line

or sidewalls (if pallets are placed at front

bulkhead, be sure to place cardboard

Do not load cargo beyond the end of the

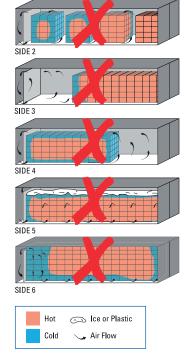
OPTIMAL LOADING-TOP VIEW In order to force air up and through the cargo, the entire floor should be covered. Cover the floor from the front bulkhead to the end of the T-floor. Where the cargo does not cover the floor some type of filler (dunnage, cardboard_etc.) should be used. Do not load past the end of the T-floor with cargo or filler.





www.save-food.org

FOOD



Rear View

Pre-cool cargo before loading

Do not set reefer set point at a temperature X below that required by the cargo (this does not expedite the cooling process)

under empty pallets)

X

T-floor