

# Containers

## Freight Preparation and Packaging Guidelines

Whether you're sending freight in a container around the corner or across the world, it is important that your product is packed, loaded and secured to minimise movement and retain balance throughout its journey.

### Preparing your freight for shipping

- Pack items in high quality, strong, durable cartons and secure using the H taping method
- Where possible, protect your freight further by palletising, strapping and/or shrink-wrapping it
- Fill empty carton space with void fillers such as bubble wrap, air fill or form peanuts. When using void fillers, consider your destination's ability to recycle or dispose of packaging (such as polystyrene)
- Ensure your freight can withstand moisture; use moisture-resistant packaging and filler
- Wrap fragile items well to avoid damage
- Ensure items are sent in accordance with hazardous packaging guidelines

### Container loading

- Pack container as tightly as possible and fill any leftover space to limit movement and prevent damage whilst in transit
- Ensure that freight susceptible to leaks or spills is not placed on top of any other freight
- Place heaviest items on the bottom of the container to stabilise the load
- Pack container evenly to retain balance during transit
- Abide by recommended maximum stacking heights for product (if applicable)
- Use strong rope or pulleys to ensure large items are tied down and secured to tie-off points
- Ensure that the weight of freight meets container specifications



### Temperature controlled freight

- Use temperature-appropriate packaging to ensure product meets temperature requirements in transit e.g. insulation materials, gel packs or dry ice. If dry ice is used, ensure hazardous goods are declared and container is labelled accordingly

### Customs and quarantine

- Quarantine and declaration forms may be required when shipping items internationally, or to Western Australia and Tasmania
- For international shipping, ensure pallet meets the destination's quarantine regulations
- Ensure freight is free of grass, dirt and mud