

## Cargo Care - Container Stowage, Do's and Don'ts

### Do's

- Choose the most suitable container to accommodate the cargo
- When the Container arrives at your loading facility, thoroughly inspect the condition of the equipment
- Keep within the load limits of the container, never overboard
- Distribute the weight of the cargo evenly over the floor of the container. Never stow heavy, dense items on one section and light, voluminous items in another
- Stow the cargo tightly
- Observe all the handling instructions on the cargo such as : "Do Not Drop, This Side Up"
- Stow goods with sharp corners and projections separate from other types of merchandise. Use dunnage and separating materials
- Place any package containing liquid on a double tier of dunnage. This will reduce the change of damage if the packages leak. This should also be done for the entire load when general cargo is mixing with liquid cargo.
- Use cargo liners for obnoxious cargo e.g., green hides, carbon black.
- Use all tie-down systems already incorporated in the unit to secure cargo
- Observe all the rules concerning hazardous cargo. Use appropriate labels and placards to identify containers loaded with dangerous goods.
- Stow Hazardous-type cargo at the rear of the container (By the doors)
- Include all necessary documentation
- Record the seal number and the container number on all shipping documents.
- Secure and stow for the worst conditions
- **Do Care when opening container doors : Cargo can come out**

### Don'ts

- Do not use tools grip or other loading devices unless the goods can "Withstand" or "resist" these handling aids.
- Never stow heavy goods on top of light goods. Place the heavier items on the bottom and lighter ones on top
- Never smoke while loading and unloading containers.
- Do not load goods in a container with damaged Door rubbers
- Avoid stowing wet and damp goods together with dry goods
- Do not use dunnage which is incompatible with the cargo
- Do not stow without plastic or water - repellent shrouds over the top and side of the load to protect against damage from water and condensation.
- Do not ship until all container doors are closed and sealed properly.
- Do not accept equipment which is not in good order and poses a threat to the safe arrival of your merchandise.
- Never stow goods with marked odours close to merchandise which can be contaminated by odours.