

BEFORE YOU START LOADING

INSPECT THE FREIGHT

Sometimes the shipment is all pre-staged on the shipping floor and in other cases it is loaded as it comes from production. In either case, it must be given a final physical check before being loaded.

Inspect the freight for signs of:

- leaking or spills
- punctures, holes, rips or tears
- bulges
- stains
- strange noises or rattling
- collapsed cartons
- broken pallets or skids
- protruding items
- protruding nails in pallets
- check shrink wrap or banding

If anything looks wrong, check. Detection and correction of any of these problems before loading can save costly damage and problems in transit.

COUNT THE PIECES

It costs everyone involved when you don't verify the piece count—check when the actual piece count does not correspond to the paperwork.

INSPECT THE TRAILER OR CONTAINER

Always check the condition of the trailer or container on delivery and before loading.

If there are any problems or if for any reason the trailer or container doesn't seem like the one you ordered—call your carrier or tell the truck driver.

It is a good idea to confirm with the driver, or the carrier's dispatch office, that the trailer or container provided will handle the weight of your shipment.

Containerization has greatly reduced cargo damages. However, this is largely dependent on the structural integrity of the container itself.