

Example of a palletized shipment wherein virtually every packaging rule was broken

Refer to figures 4.8 and 4.9 on facing page.

1. Carton too large for the contents and only single wall construction. Should have been at least double wall. (Fig 4.9) .
2. Electronic components stowed loose in the carton without any protection (Fig 4.9)
3. Extensive, and inappropriate use of expanded polystyrene for internal carton structure. This does not provide compressive strength. (Fig 4.9)
4. Only one tension band in each direction. (Fig 4.8)
5. Marking indicates 3 high stow permissible, but collapse has occurred with only 2 high. It is possible that the cartons alone, properly stacked could have gone to 3 high. (Fig 4.8)
6. Collapse is, in part, due to loss of compressive strength caused by carton overhanging pallet in one direction and being short in the other direction. (Fig 4.8)
7. Poor pallet, deck and base boards do not come to the edge and are too narrow. (Fig 4.8)

While the actual collapse, and damage caused, can be attributed to poor stowage, and lack of dunnage bags to support the load, a major contributing factor was poor choice of packaging system, and inappropriate use of pallets. The shipping company or forwarder should probably have rejected the consignment for shipment because of the high risk of damage occurring.