

## ***Air***

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Minimizing package weight to save on air freight costs may expose the product to unacceptable damage risks, not so much in the air as during ground transportation to and from airports. Most cargo is delivered to both carrier and consignee by truck. Often air cargo is stored in warehouses or on transfer docks before forwarding, increasing exposure to theft, pilferage and handling damage. Always insist upon prompt pick-up and delivery of your shipment. Packaging can only be reduced if you are able to pack the air freight container, and your customer unpacks it.

Turbulent air can subject cargo to rapid alternating vertical movements with heavier pressure one moment, and almost weightless conditions the next. As altitude increases, atmospheric pressure decreases, subjecting liquid cargoes to leakage hazards and increased internal pressure. Very low temperature can also be experienced in the cargo hold.

**The biggest hazard, regardless of the method of shipment, is the way in which the carton is handled at intermediate stages. When packaging items for shipment in individual cartons, the worst must be expected.**

**It is only when you, the shipper, can pack the goods either onto a pallet, or into the truck or freight container, and your customer does the unpacking, that you can safely reduce the packing and packaging material specifications.**