

Cargo Tips: Machinery Shipments

Domestic Truck Moves

CHUBB®



Making sure your machinery shipments get from Point A to Point B safely is a priority.

Unfortunately, your machinery can be exposed to many perils along the way. Thoughtful decisions on how to package, handle and transport your machinery can make all the difference in ensuring that it arrives at its destination safely.

Chubb's Marine Risk Management Specialists are pleased to provide you with the following tips for packaging, handling and transporting your machinery in domestic transportation:

Packaging

- When securing the machine atop a skid, ensure the skid is well constructed of lumber that is clean, dry and free of knots, and robust enough to withstand the weight of the machine without bending or breaking. The skid should be built to allow for mechanical (crane and/or forklift) handling.
- Make sure machines positioned atop skids are bolted to the skid, with the bolts extending into, or preferably through, the skid runners.
- When the machine's center of gravity is above mid-height, consider using a wider skid base to increase its stability and prevent tipping during handling and transport.
- Make sure none of the machine's parts extend beyond the footprint of the skid as this exposes the machine to damage through contact with adjacent cargo or structural members of the transport conveyance.
- Secure movable or loose parts of the machine.
- If the machinery is sensitive to damage by shock or vibration, consider using rubber blocks or a foam supported floating deck. Use shock and tip indicating devices in order to validate whether or not the machine has been subjected to acceleration (expressed in G force) or tipped/tilted during transit in excess of allowable thresholds. Affix these devices to both the interior and exterior of the package since they are prone to tampering or accidental removal.
 - Place the tilt and shock indicating devices on a rigid surface with tilt devices preferably at/near the upper corner. As tilt indicating devices are designed to activate ("trigger") in one dimension, installed two devices, one each on two adjacent machinery sides. *There should be instructions to immediately inspect for damage if these devices have been activated or an external one is missing.*
- Coat bare metal and machined surfaces with a corrosion inhibitor spray.
- Cover machines sensitive to wetting in plastic. Alternatively, the machine can be enclosed in a wood case with plastic/waterproof cover installed over the top of the case and banded in place around the upper sides.
- When multiple handling is intended during transport, apply international handling symbols to the exterior of the packaging (on at least 2 sides) to clearly indicate how the machine should be handled and stored. Examples include but are not limited to: Handle with Care, Keep Dry, Do Not Stack, Lift/Sling Here and Center of Gravity. Other Clearly mark shipping data, such as the delivery address and weight, on the exterior of the packaging.



Handling/Transport

- From initial pick up to the final destination, use a reliable transportation partner. Chubb Marine Risk Management Specialists can provide you with safety performance data for all trucking companies registered by the U.S. DOT for your use in identifying a suitable carrier or carriers.
- When practical, arrange for direct, door-to-door shipments to avoid transfers and transshipments that result in extra handling.
- Provide your transportation partner with specific shipping instructions pertaining to any special handling, transport or storage requirements for the machine.

Loading/Securement

- Ensure the proper transport equipment is used based on the size and weight (low boy or drop deck flatbed) and sensitivities (dry van or air ride suspension) of the packaged machinery.
- Ensure that the trailer has a valid DOT Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) inspection tag
- and appears to be in good serviceable condition for transport.
- Ensure that the machine is secured in accordance with [FMCSA](#) restraint for standards and that securement devices appear to be in good serviceable condition.
- If machinery sensitive to wetting is being carried on an open trailer, even if it has been covered in plastic, require tarping of the load by the carrier.



Contact Us!

Chubb Marine policyholders have access to the expertise and guidance of our Marine Risk Management Specialists. Email us at MarineRiskUS@Chubb.com.

For more information on Chubb's Inland Marine and cargo solutions, visit www.chubb.com/us/cargo.

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