Canadian Blood Services
Société canadienne du sang

Head Office / Siège social
1800 Alta Vista
Ottawa, ON K1G 4J5
T 613.739.2300 F 613.731.1411
www.blood.ca www.sang.ca

INFORMATION ONLY

Implementation Date for New Insulated Shipping Containers for Hospital Deliveries - Edmonton Production and Distribution Site

Customer Letter # 2016-07

2016-03-15

Dear Customer:

Canadian Blood Services will pilot the use of new insulated shipping containers (ISCs) for hospital deliveries exclusively from the Edmonton production and distribution site. The implementation of the pilot, initially scheduled for November 30, 2015, has been delayed to April 11, 2016. Information on the new ISCs was originally provided in Customer Letter 2015-24.

The shift in the implementation date was required to allow the project team to confirm the performance of the incubators used in maintaining the 4°C phase change material plates over extended periods of time. A separate customer letter will be issued with the details of the implementation schedule for other regions once the schedule is finalized.

In response to internal and external feedback, Canadian Blood Services has qualified the smaller 8L polyurethane container for transport of Plasma Protein Products. This packing configuration can be used when smaller quantities of Plasma Protein Products are being shipped. The summary of ISC Packing configurations has been updated with the new packing configurations (see Attachment 1). Ergonomic information on handling fully loaded ISCs is also available as a reference (see Attachment 2).

Attachment 1: ISC Packing Configurations

Attachment 2: Ergonomic Information

This Customer Letter can also be viewed at www.blood.ca in the "Hospitals" section. If you have questions about this Customer Letter, or if you require it in an accessible format, please contact your local Hospital Liaison Specialist.

Sincerely,

Rick Prinzen
Chief Supply Chain Officer

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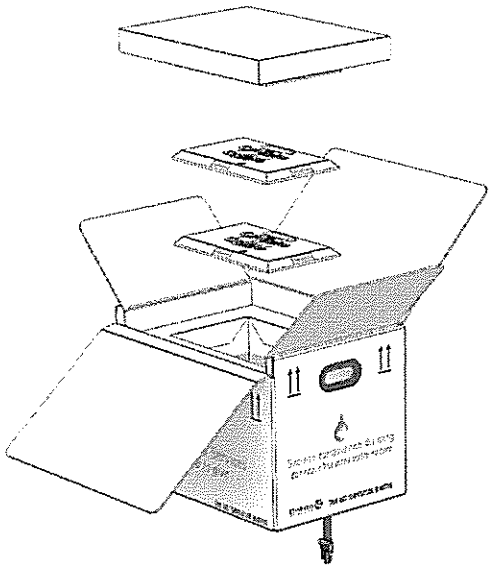
Attachment 1: ISC Packing Configurations

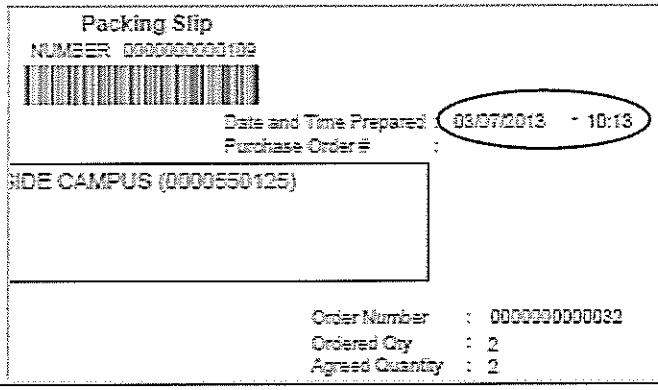
RBCs - Short Journey



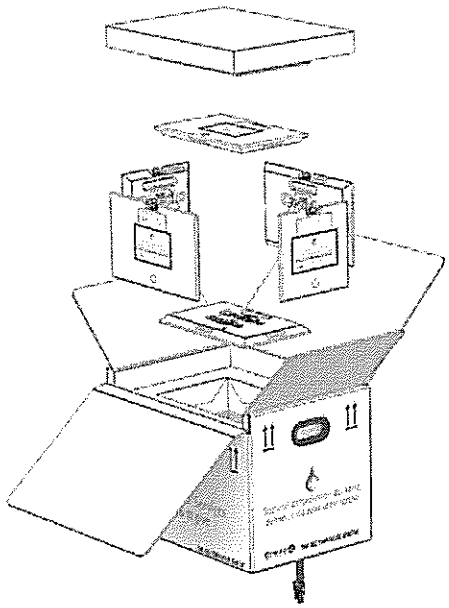
Confirm Upon Receipt:

- 8L Polyurethane (PUR) Container with lid firmly seated
- Two Series 4 Plates. One plate on top of RBCs, the other plate on the bottom
- RBCs located below the red line found within the container
- Packing Time to the Time of Receipt ≤17 hours

Refer to packing slip for packing time:


Packing Slip
NUMBER 0000000000192
Date and Time Prepared : 03/07/2013 - 10:13
Purchase Order # :
SIDE CAMPUS (0000550125)
Order Number : 0000000000032
Ordered Qty : 2
Agreed Quantity : 2

RBCs - Long Journey



Confirm Upon Receipt:

- 8L Polyurethane (PUR) Container with lid firmly seated
- Six Series 4 Plates to form cube
- RBCs located within cube
- Packing Time to Time of Receipt ≤ 24 hours

Note: Washed and Deglycerolized RBC will be sent with this packing configuration.

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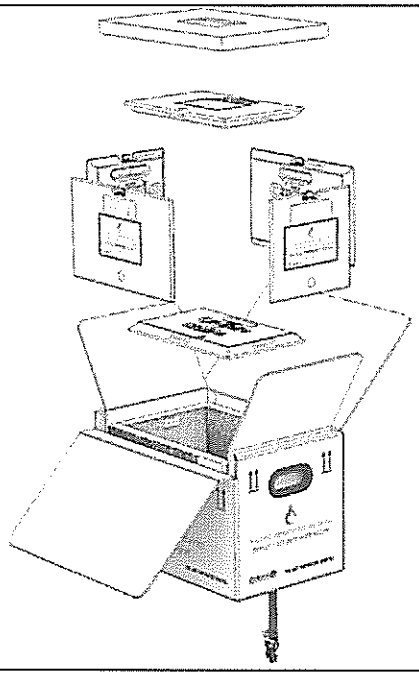
Platelets



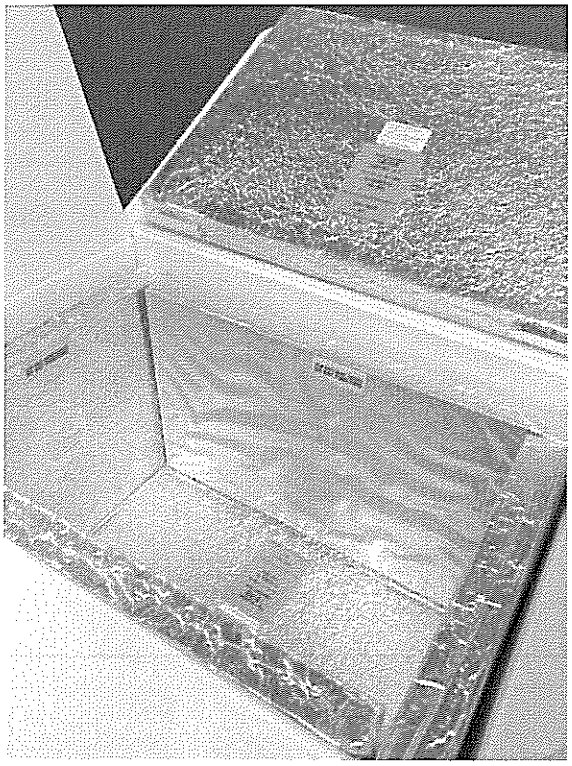
Confirm Upon Receipt:

- ➔8L Vacuum Insulated Panel (VIP) Container with vacuum panels intact. See examples below.
- ➔ Six Series 22 Plates to form cube
- ➔ Platelets located within cube
- ➔ Packing Time to Time of Receipt ≤ 24 hours

Acceptable Vacuum Panel

➔Panels are rigid and skin is tight.

Unacceptable Vacuum Panel



➔The loose skin and lack of rigidity of the back panel indicates the panel has lost its vacuum.

Share your vitality **Partagez votre vitalité**

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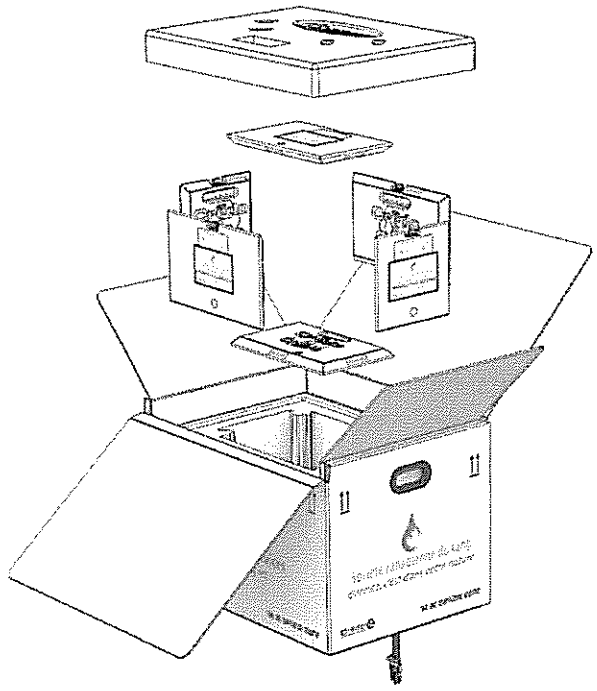
Frozen Products



Confirm Upon Receipt:

- ➔ Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Container
- ➔ Six Series 20M Plates to form a cube. The top plate will be placed directly on the frozen products. Packing material will be placed above the top plate, when required.
- ➔ Packing Time to Time of Receipt ≤ 24 hours

Note: Plates will be at -20°C or colder at the time of receipt. Gloves should be used to handle plates.

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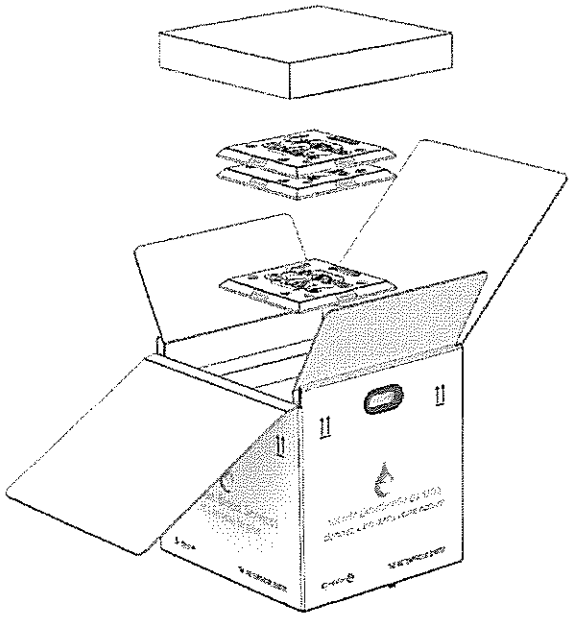
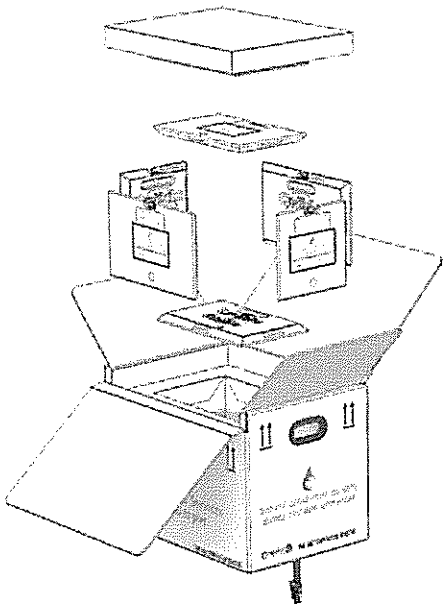
Room Temperature Plasma Protein Products (PPP) - 16 Litre	
	**Confirm Upon Receipt:** ➔16L Polyurethane (PUR) Container with lid firmly seated ➔ Three square Series 4 Plates. Two plates will be above product and one plate below product ➔ Packing Time to Time of Receipt ≤ 24 hours **Note:** Room temperature PPP may also be received in the original boxes if they are transferred in Canadian Blood Services' vehicles where acceptable shipment temperatures can be confirmed.
Room Temperature Plasma Protein Products (PPP) - 8 Litre	
	**Confirm Upon Receipt:** ➔8L Polyurethane (PUR) Container with lid firmly seated ➔ Six Series 4 Plates to form cube ➔ PPP located within cube ➔ Packing Time to Time of Receipt ≤ 24 hours

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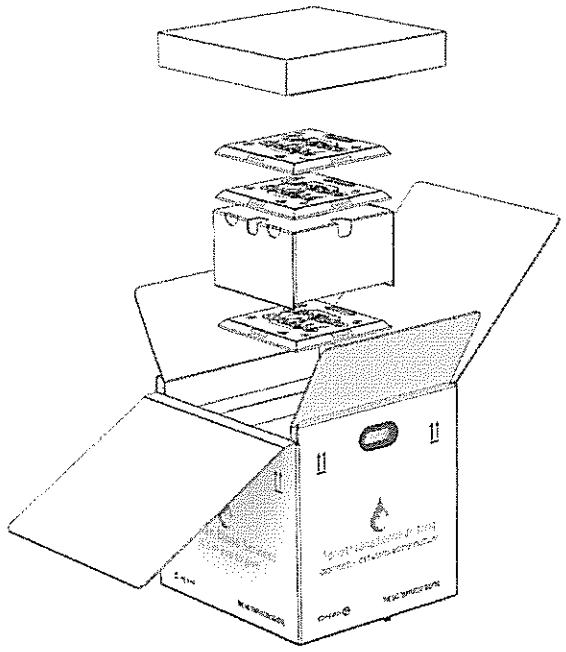
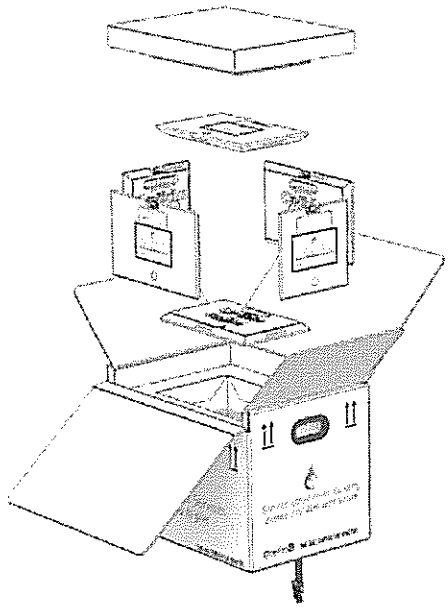
Refrigerated Plasma Protein Products (PPP) - 16 Litre	
	**Confirm Upon Receipt:** ➔16L Polyurethane (PUR) Container with lid firmly seated ➔ Three square Series 4 Plates. One plate will be on the bottom, one plate will be on top of the insert and the third plate at the top of the ISC **Note:** Product can be placed in the insert between the bottom plate and the middle plate and between the middle and top plate. If product is only packed in the insert, the middle and top plates will be together on top of the insert. ➔ Packing Time to Time of Receipt ≤ 24 hours. ➔ RBC units can also be placed in this packing configuration along with refrigerated PPP.
Refrigerated Plasma Protein Products (PPP) - 8 Litre	
	**Confirm Upon Receipt:** ➔8L Polyurethane (PUR) Container with lid firmly seated ➔ Six Series 4 Plates to form cube ➔ PPP located within cube ➔ Packing Time to Time of Receipt ≤ 24 hours ➔ RBC units can also be placed in this packing configuration along with refrigerated PPP.

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Attachment 2: Ergonomic Information

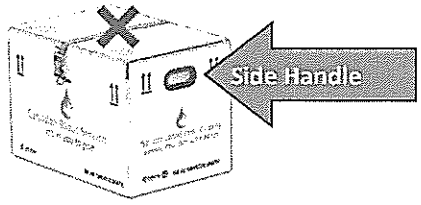
Background:
The design of the new insulated shipping containers was based on thermal performance requirements associated with Canadian Blood Services shipping routes. The overall weight of the new shipping containers is directly related to the amount of insulation required to protect against extreme ambient temperatures and the weight of the phase change material (PCM) plates that are used to maintain temperatures. The dimensions of the new containers are linked to the amount of insulation required, the type of insulation used, as well as the required space within the insulator for the products.

The following table provides a summary of the dimensions:

Shipping Container	Products	Outer Dimensions
8L Polyurethane (PUR)	RBCs, Plasma Protein Products (PPP)	20.8″ x 14.6″ x 15″
8L Vacuum Insulated Panel (VIP)	Platelets	18″ x 11.25″ x 11.5″
EPS (Expanded Polystyrene)	Frozen Products	25.6″ x 17.5″ x 16″
16L Polyurethane (PUR)	Plasma Protein Products (PPP)	20.6″ x 18.5″ x 20.6″

Manual handling of the new insulated shipping containers when they are empty does not pose a significant ergonomic challenge. For fully loaded shipping containers, the following provides ergonomic information for your reference. For further information, consult your local occupational health and safety office.

Information for Hospitals

Ergonomic Information	Details
Use the large side handles for two hand lift vs. lifting boxes with the strap. 	• The strap system works in combination with the four top flaps of the outer shell to keep the shipping container sealed and the insulator lid firmly seated. • The strap is not intended for lifting fully loaded shipping containers.
Minimize the manual handling of loaded shipping containers within the laboratory by arranging to have containers placed in the appropriate location for unpacking at the time of delivery, if possible. If loaded shipping containers need to be moved from one location to another, use carts set at the appropriate height.	Details for larger EPS (Frozen Products) and 16L PUR (PPP) Shipping Containers: • Place containers on a lower surface level like a raised platform or cart, to be unpacked. • The ideal height surface level height for unpacking is 19 to 25 inches. • Containers can also be emptied when they are at ground level – the goal is to eliminate the need to lift or move loaded containers.
If shipping containers are typically dropped off outside of the laboratory, arrange to have a trolley or cart available at the drop-off point.	• If **couriers** or **taxis** are delivering products, the desired drop off location (e.g., on a cart) will need to be communicated to the driver.

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Supporting Activities Performed by Canadian Blood Services

Canadian Blood Services will…	Details
Minimize the weight of insulated shipping containers used for PPP shipments, if possible.	• The number of larger volume products (e.g., 250 ml bottles of albumin) packed in the 16L PUR shipping containers may be reduced to minimize weight. • The smaller and lighter 8L shipping container may be used when lower numbers of PPP are being shipped to a hospital.
At time of delivery to hospitals, place insulated shipping containers in an appropriate location for unpacking within the laboratory, if possible.	• If shipping containers cannot be placed within the laboratory, shipping containers can be dropped off in a location that minimizes manual handling prior to unpacking (e.g., on a cart)