

# Cold Chain Shipping: 11 Critical Considerations

Cold chain is an efficient option when shipping temperature-sensitive items that must remain within a specified low-temperature range to reach their destination safely. This guide highlights the key steps to ensure safe delivery.



## COOL OR FROZEN

Does your material have to stay frozen or cold on arrival? More considerations apply to be kept cool rather than frozen.



## DOMESTIC OR INTERNATIONAL

Determine if the shipment is domestic or international. If it's international, then more factors need to be considered.



## FROZEN = COLD CHAIN AND DRY ICE

Dry ice is a critical component of the cold chain to keep your items frozen during transportation.



## WEIGHT MATTERS

Measuring the product's weight is essential to pinpoint the dry ice needed and ensure the item remains frozen until the destination.



## JOURNEY DURATION

Count the time from when the item leaves the location to when the recipient will have it in hand.



## AMOUNT OF DRY ICE NEEDED

Dry ice evaporates at 5–10 lbs per 24 hours. So, a journey of 2 days requires at least 20 lbs of dry ice. Make sure to determine the right amount.



## CONTINGENCY PLAN AND POSSIBLE DELAYS

Cold Chain shipments take your item on a plane journey that can experience delays. Adding more dry ice keeps the item frozen.



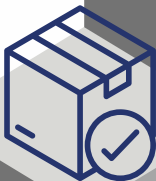
## INTERNATIONAL = CUSTOMS CLEARANCE

Decide who will pay duty and tax. To prevent delays at customs, consider paying up front and being reimbursed afterward.



## COMMERCIAL VALUE OR PRICELESS

The product must have a commercial value determined for insurance purposes. To keep it protected, consider using cold chain shipping.



## CHOOSE THE RIGHT PACKAGING

The proper packaging must be chosen carefully, and its type influences the price and the conditions in which your product will reach its destination.



## BEST TIME TO SHIP

Shipping earlier in the week is advisable to ensure temperature-sensitive cold chain package recipients can accept and handle your shipment.

Choose Mercury for your cold chain shipping needs and experience peace of mind knowing that you have a dedicated team of experts available around the clock to ensure the safe and timely delivery of your life-saving products.

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