

Review of Guidelines for Shipping Container Design

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ABSTRACT

Christian Brothers University has offered a Packaging Engineering Certificate since the 2002-2003 academic year. The program covers the basics of packaging engineering, including materials, distribution packaging, and medical packaging. The program is being expanded to cover more details in each area. As part of a senior project in civil engineering, two seniors who were interested in structural engineering chose to work on the structural design of containers. Reviewing available related standards and guidelines was part of the project. This work is a result of such a review.

This paper will give the history of transport packaging since the 1880's as the industrial revolution began and manufacturers shipped their goods nationwide via railroad. It will also describe the essence of the International Convention for Safe Containers (CSC) and other related guidelines from various agencies and organizations in the U.S., as well as European countries. These organizations include the Interstate Commerce Commission, National Railroad Committee, and National Motor Freight Traffic Association.