 Winter Shipping Rules

**ALL SHIPMENTS**

**Calendar**

* Nov 15--Apr 15

**Ship Cycle**

* Must complete before weekend/holiday
* Continual motion is best protection measure
* Protect from freeze is priority designation not guarantee of heated trailer

**Label**

* All sides fluorescent green – “Protect from Freeze” sticker
* “Protect from Freeze” on all documents and boxes/pallet tag

**Freight**

* Temperature limits
	+ Nothing goes if high under 10F through projected ship path
* Carrier selection
	+ Fed Ex Priority Freight in US
	+ ABF in Canada

**Fed Ex Ground**

* Temperature limits
	+ Nothing goes if temps go under 10\*F through projected ship path

**Container size**

* Larger size travels better

**Example: Hardwick to California**

1. Sales rep and customer are informed of cold weather shipping restrictions.
2. Ship on a Monday. Check 5 day national weather before shipping, Hold if shipping origin or destination location will be under 10F.
3. Ship Fed Ex Priority freight, 4-day transit time from VT to CA. Ships on a Monday, arrives on a Friday. (The day it ships does not count as transit time) Avoid the possibility of having the freight sit on weekends or holidays.
4. Mark bill of lading pick up requests, pallet on all 4 sides, and individual boxes with PROTECT FROM FREEZING.
5. Verbally confirm with Vermont Fed Ex freight driver that the freight is Protect from Freezing.

**Notes:**

Other carriers that offer Protect from freeze that we have worked with are Estes, ABF, and Conway. These vary by region. Rarely are blankets or heated trailers used, as not all terminals have them. Protect from freezing normally means that the freight has been flagged as a priority for a fast delivery, and they should keep it warm if for some reason it isn’t moving.