



AMXL Packaging Guidelines

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Introduction

The purpose of this document is to supplement the [Amazon SIPP Packaging Guidelines](#) and create a more robust addendum specifically for AMXL’s wide variety of packaging containers. The IDEAL vessel is a 6-sided rigid container such as a corrugated box with appropriate sealing mechanisms, handling, and labeling imprinted. Although we also service unique specialty items with nuanced handling and packaging requirements that are detailed below. This would help prepare the products transit to the end customer undamaged and usable. Even though those would be ideal, we are aware of our vendors variety of packaging materials and design choices. Below are our packaging guidelines as they pertain to the more common packaging formats we currently see in our network and how we suggest executing the packaging styles to better fit our logistic network. We recommend that ALL AMXL ASINs meet minimum ISTA6-Amazon.com SIOC testing certification standards. Multisets will need to be tested individually per container, therefore we also suggest reducing your products packaging to a single container, as the susceptibility of damage per asin, per package goes up exponentially.

AMXL Size Definition

Products that meet any of the following size or weight requirements are considered oversized and will require special handling:

- Weigh equal to or greater than 50lbs.
- Have a combined length + girth measurement of 130 inches or greater.
- Have a length of 59 inches or greater and/or have a width of 33 inches or greater and/or have a height of 33 inches or greater.
- Are TVs/Monitors with a length of 40 inches or greater.
- Have any other characteristics requiring specialized delivery.

This covers the key criteria for identifying oversized or specialty products that need extra care during shipping and handling.



Packaging:

1. Types of packaging:

i. Carton Packaging - For products packaged in Regular Slotted Containers (RSC), Half Slotted Containers (HSC) with bottom tray, Full Overlap Containers (FOL), or other corrugated containers, minimum Edge Crush Test (ECT)/Burst ratings are recommended based on product weight:

- **75-150 lbs products:**
 - 200# Burst Test / 42 ECT (max loading: 80 lbs per carton)
 - 275# Burst Test / 48 ECT (max loading: 100 lbs per carton)
 - 350# Burst Test / 51 ECT (max loading: 120 lbs per carton)
- **150 lbs and up products:**
 - 400# Burst Test / 61 ECT (max loading: 140 lbs per carton)
 - 500# Burst Test / 71 ECT (max loading: 160 lbs per carton)
 - 600# Burst Test / 82 ECT (max loading: 180 lbs per carton)

These represent minimum suggested ratings; however, depending on the product's nature or type, a higher ECT rating is strongly recommended.

ii. Pallet Packaging - Refer to the NA Vendor Manual for comprehensive palletizing standards.

- AMXL currently receives inbound palletized loads following NA vendor standards. Some products feature integrated pallets that remain with the product throughout the entire fulfillment process—from stowing through last mile delivery.
- Pallets are stowed in 4ft or 6ft racking systems. Bulk floor stowing is not recommended due to building utilization constraints. AMXL fulfillment centers typically utilize 4'-6' standard pallets with key components including top and bottom deckboards, stringers with four-way entry notches, and proper opening height for forklift access.
- Design pallets to be robust with reinforced top and bottom slats, ensuring they can safely handle the product's size and weight during transit through fulfillment centers, sort centers, and last mile distribution channels when moved with standard pallet jacks and powered industrial trucks (PIT).

iii. **Product Without Packaging** - Products shipped and delivered to customers without additional packaging materials. Due to the absence of standard packaging protection, these items are classified under the "special handling" category. These products receive the safest and most careful handling possible throughout the fulfillment process to ensure they arrive undamaged to the customer.

2. Materials:

- i. Paper is the most popular packaging medium in the form of Corrugated Paper Board. Everything should ideally be shipped in a box.
 - Molded Paper Pulp – Please insure this material if form fitting to the product but also the packaging container.
 - Corner Boards - Material is VERY versatile. Will add strength for stacking and clamping.
 - Honeycomb – Strong, and great for cushioning from impacts.
- ii. Tape – Sufficiently strong enough for the weight of the product and proper adhesion used to evenly distribute the material for sealing. Wide selection for types and uses.
 - Beware of tape becoming brittle due to time, and exposure to heat/humidity.
- iii. Foam – For heavier items a higher density foam is recommended as lower density is prone to snap, break, chip, disintegrate with only small minor impacts. Not properly protecting the item through its whole journey.
- iv. Plastics and/or Films – Usually in the form of a liner in a products container to protect from scuffs/scratches/rips and/or debris entering ports.
- v. Metals – For heavier duty packaging solutions. Bracing and support.
- vi. Wood – Wide array of versatility. Pallets, bracing, puncture protection, etc.



3. Sealing Mechanisms:

- i. Tape – Minimum of 3” tape H-Style is best practice.
- ii. Banding – Properly secured with minimal slack to prevent them from being used as handles. Taping down the banding will greatly mitigate this handling risk causing them to snap off or catch other products or handling materials.
- iii. Staples & Glue – Properly adhered and secured.
- iv. Locking Tabs – Taped down to prevent them popping out when handled.

4. Labeling

- a. For items that are >59” in any length suggest the application of labeling in 2 areas to minimize handling of the product, and less constraint on our associates.

5. Handling

- a. Proper labeling and handling suggestions according to the [NA Vendor Manual](#).

FAQs

1. Who do I contact if I have additional questions?
Vendors: Contact us via [Email](#) for AMXL Packaging Inquiries.
2. Where can I find information on requirements for labeling and shipping my products inbound to Amazon? *Package markings and labeling must clearly indicate contents and communicate any unique handling instructions. All certified packages must also follow the labeling and carton marking requirement for Vendors outlined in the ‘Vendor Shipment Preparation and Receive Manual’ available within [Vendor Central](#) under Support, select ‘Shipping’> ‘Vendor Manual’.*
3. Where can I find the status of my ASINs and current enrollment status)?
*Chargebacks are not currently given to AMXL ASINs.
- A list of your eligible ASINs and current certification status can be found in [Vendor Central](#) via the Operations dashboard or the Product Prep and Packaging dashboard.*
4. Do I need to test all ASIN variations of similar products?
For AMXL Specific ASINs it is HIGHLY suggested. Form Factor Rules do not apply in the AMXL logistic network. If you have any questions, please reach out to us [here](#).

1. Glossary of Terms

AA: Amazon Associate

Amazon Standard Item Number (ASIN): A unique identifier for each product in the Amazon retail catalog.

Box Compression Test (BCT): Box Compression Testing that is used to determine a maximum load that the corrugated packaging (whole container) can sustain before it collapses.

ECT: Edge Crush Testing utilized for determining the maximum load that a sheet of corrugated material (Single Sheet) can sustain before it buckles and collapses.

Bulk Floors: Area in an AMXL FC where products are stored in bulk to maximize stow utilization.

First Mile: Pertains to Fulfillment Centers.

Full Over Lap (FOL) Container: All flaps have the same length (the width of the box). When closed, the outer flaps come within one inch of complete overlap.

Fulfillment Center (FC): An Amazon warehouse designed to hold goods for long-term storage and to ship them directly to Amazon customers when ordered.

Frustration Free Packaging (FFP): A sellable unit that meets all of the requirements of Tier 2 SIOC with additional requirements of being curbside recyclable materials and easy to open. Also known as Tier 1 of the SIPP program.



Heavy Bulky (AMXL): >50lbs or length+girth greater than or equal to 130 inches or length greater than 59 inches or width greater than 33 inches or height greater than 33 inches or TVs with length greater than or equal to 40 inches or products that require special delivery*

Half Slotted Container (HSC): a type of corrugated box with an open top and one set of flaps. HSCs are a variation of the RSC (Regular Slotted Container) and are used in a variety of industries for shipping and storing products.

International Safe Transit Association (ISTA): A leading industry developer of testing protocol and design standards that define how packages should perform in the global distribution environment. See the [ISTA website](#) for more information.

Last Mile: Final leg in the products delivery cycle as it reaches the customer.

Mech Lift: Greater than 150lbs moved only by PIT

Middle Mile: Pertains to Sort Centers before product reaches Last Mile delivery.

Non-Sortable: ASINs with item package dimensions greater than 18" x 14" x 8" (455 mm x 340 mm x 265 mm) and/or greater than 20lbs (12.3 kg); meaning any packaged item with its longest side greater than 18" (455 mm) or its shortest side greater than 8" (265 mm) or its median side greater than 14" (340 mm). Non-Sortable ASINs are eligible for SIOC or FFP certification and subject to SIOC chargebacks (with some exceptions).

Powered Industrial Trucks (PIT): Heavy machinery for physical manipulation or products and their packaging.

Regular Slotted Container (RSC): Box style that have all flaps the same length, and the two outer flaps are half the width of the box. When folded, the outer flaps meet in the center of the box.

Ship in Own Container (SIOC): A sellable unit that can safely be shipped from a distributor to an Amazon FC and then on to the customer in its own manufacturer packaging without additional boxing. Also known as Tier 2 of the SIPP program.

Sortable: ASINs with item package dimensions less than or equal to 18" x 14" x 8" (455 mm x 340 mm x 265 mm) and less than or equal to 20 lbs. (12.3 kg). Only Sortable ASINs that meet the minimum package dimensions (6.0" x 4.0" x 0.375" or 152.4 mm x 101.6 mm x 9.5 mm) can qualify as SIOC or FFP eligible; meaning any packaged item with its longest side at a minimum of 6.0" (152.4 mm) and its shortest side at a minimum of 0.375" (9.5 mm) and its median side at a minimum of 4.0" (101.6 mm). Sortable ASINs are not eligible for SIOC chargebacks.

Team Lift: Utilized when the product is up to 100lbs or less. Team of 2 AA's used to move the product.

Tilt Push Slide (TPS): Tilt, Push, or Slide method for moving products less than or equal to 85lbs = 1 person, or 101 - 150lbs = 2 Person TPS.

Appendix

- Amazon's [Packaging Website](#) [UK/DE/FR/IT/ES]
- [APASS](#) (Amazon Packaging Support and Supplier): Network provides a list of companies and labs that can help test, design, and supply packaging in line with Amazon's packaging certification guidelines.
- [ISTA](#) (International Safe Transit Association): Physical performance testing for the e-commerce supply chain. Selling partners looking for external testing services to perform the ISTA 6-Amazon.com SIOC test method can leverage the Find a Lab search tool through the ISTA website.

