



BEST PRACTICE: PACKING AND LOADING APPLES IN RPCS

IFCO's RPCs were designed to facilitate the efficient packing, palletizing, and loading of fresh apples. By following the best practices outlined here, growers can ensure their product arrives at retail in premium condition.

High-quality apples

- Better temperature management during transportation from farm to store
- Greater protection in distribution - won't crush in humid environments like cardboard boxes
- Smooth interior walls eliminate bruising

Efficient handling and distribution

- Works well with both bagged- and tray-packed product
- Easy assembly and packing
- Offers maximum pack and cube capacities
- Eliminates need for cornerboards and strapping
- Easier, more ergonomic handling at both warehouse and store
- Builds strong pallet foundation for distribution, including cross-stack patterns
- Folding efficiency reduces storage and transportation costs

Environmentally friendly packaging

- Designed for years of reuse
- Reduces corrugated waste, particularly when replacing heavy-duty apple boxes
- Reduces energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions
- IFCO is committed to Worldwide Responsibility



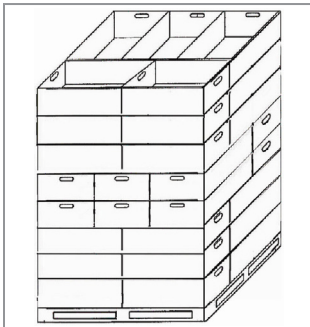


Packing

1. Bagged- or tray-pack in RPC per retailer's weight or size requirements, respectively
2. Ensure latches are fully locked prior to and during packing.

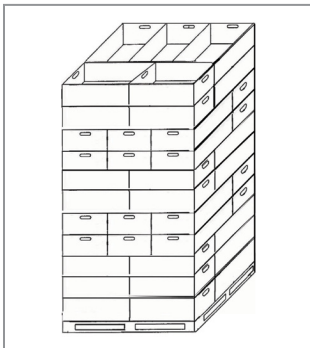
Palletizing

1. Palletize RPCs in cross stack pattern with stacking height per retailer specifications. Ensure RPCs are properly nested and latched during pallet building.
2. Strap from top to bottom to ensure stability. IFCO recommends 3 straps (top, middle and bottom).
3. Ensure proper RPC labeling – please refer to retailer labeling guidelines.



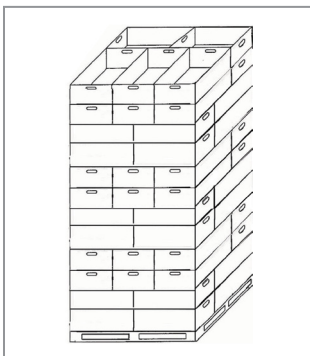
8 Layers - 40 RPCs

- 6425
- 6428



11 Layers - 55 RPCs

- 6419

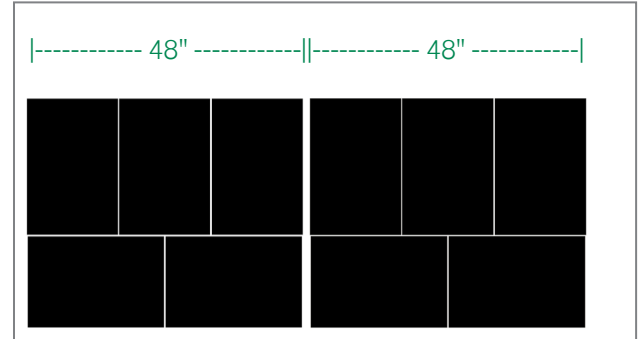


12 Layers - 60 RPCs

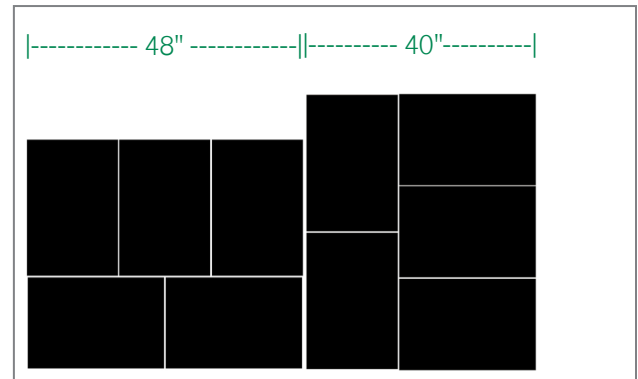
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Loading

102"-wide trailers: load pallets across 48" side



96"-wide trailers: load pallets in a pinwheel fashion, one pallet on 40" side, the other pallet on 48" side



Two load locks should be placed at the end of RPC pallets, regardless of trailer size.

