

Press Release

Temperature-controlled transport and logistics for pharmaceuticals, healthcare, fresh food, lab diagnostics, and biotechnology

Modular, easy assembly and temperature-stable for Ambient, Cool und Frozen: the new *Protect XL-Pallet Shipper* from eutecma

When transporting temperature sensitive products, maintaining the specific cold chain is of the utmost importance. Dependable cooling systems are essential. To this end, eutecma is proud to announce a new development that saves costs in the warehouse, in human resources and in transport: Together with the passive cooling element *Icecatch Solid Insulated*, the fully qualified *Protect XL-Pallet Shipper* provides a temperature-stable home for up to 120 hours for an entire Euro pallet – and does so without having to supply external energy and in every relevant pharmaceutical temperature range: Ambient (+15 °C to +25 °C), Cool (+2 °C to +8 °C) and Frozen (<-20 °C).

The *Protect XL-Pallet Shipper* helps manufacturers, packers, shippers and logistics providers to sink costs significantly and avoid packing mistakes thanks to its compact transport and storage, modular construction and the extremely simple assembly by only one employee. What's more, it only needs to be filled with a single type of cool brick format. The GDP-compliant, fully qualified *Protect XL-Pallet Shipper* is also well suited for rush jobs that have to leave the warehouse quickly, because it can be pre-filled with product and placed in refrigerated storage well before the cool bricks are added.

Made of light and robust EPS or Neopor, the *Protect XL-Pallet Shipper* consists of a base, a maximum of 5 L-shaped stacking frames and a lid. A fully loaded Euro pallet can be placed directly onto the base plate (clear internal measurements 1,250 x 850 mm). "Thanks to the stacking modular design, the transport volume during storage and shipping before use or during empty transfer within the company has been significantly reduced", explains eutecma Managing Director Markus Baumgärtner. In the best-selling version with four stacking frames,

which corresponds to the most common stacking height of a Euro pallet (1.20 meters), storage and transport volume is reduced by around 25%.

Modular box grows according to its load

The base of the *Protect XL-Pallet Shipper* has been the subject of intensive research by the Mannheim-based specialists for innovative cooling systems. Specially designed recesses on the bottom of the base plate facilitate perfect placement of the Euro pallet. "That ensures that the fork lift driver can safely and accurately place a fully loaded pallet right onto the base plate," explains Sales Manager Sven Rölle. In the next step, a warehouse worker can then build the box to the height needed by using: one, two, three, four or five frame elements.

The available interior volume varies depending on how many modules are utilized. The system offers volume capacities of: 335, 648, 961, 1,275 or 1,588 Liter by utilizing five various heights: the L-shaped frame elements have been designed to stand solidly on their own. In this way, the *Protect XL-Pallet Shipper* can be assembled by one person quickly and easily – as opposed to the two people required for other systems. Assembly is simple. Frame segments marked A are stacked onto A and B onto B. This simplicity helps reduce assembly mistakes.

Perfect for ad hoc orders

The high-tech box can be fully loaded with product and then parked in the Ambient, Cool or Frozen refrigerated warehouse area. And when a rush order comes in – or when the truck shows early – the only thing that needs to be done is to slip the required number of *Icecatch* cool bricks into the specially designed slots in the frame. The cool bricks sit snugly in the stacking frame inside the box, which helps to eliminate potential packing mistakes.

Subsequently, the valuable cargo is cooled consistently throughout the entire transport therefore the entire process can be validated. The *Protect XL-Pallet Shipper* has proven itself to be an ideal solution, especially for shipping orders that have to be executed in large quantities, with high precision and in an extremely short time frame, points out Baumgärtner's partner, Florian Zeilfelder. The system provides the advantage of being able to prepack large shipping quantities and stockpile them for express shipping.

From XS to XL: a cool brick format for every size

In order to ensure that the pallet remains within the temperature corridor needed for the entire journey – in spite of exterior temperatures from minus 20 °C and plus 40 °C – the right cooling elements are needed. Whereas dry ice is used for frozen shipments (< -20 °C) – with *Icecatch Solid Insulated*, eutecma offers a water-based passive cold storage that has proven its effectiveness millions of times. The *Icecatch Solid Insulated* is a self-insulating cooling element with an integrated, hydrophobic insulation layer, which guarantees safe transport of temperature sensitive products in the temperature range of 2° to 8°Celsius for up to 120 hours. For the Ambient temperature range (+15 °C to +25 °C) there is the *Icecatch Solid Ambient* available. This newly developed passive energy storage is a combined storage of heat and cold; it works with Phase-Change-Material (PCM), which has a melting point of +20 °C.

The highlight is: *Icecatch* cool bricks for Cool und Ambient logistics contain different cooling mediums, but they are all the same size (280 x 190 x 28 mm). This means that they fit in the pre-defined slots of every eutecma box, from XS (5.4 Liters) to XL (1,588 Liters). This is the strength of the solution: every cool brick fits into every box that the specialists from Mannheim offer their customers. And because of this fact, manufacturers, wholesalers and shippers need only to deal with *one* single cool brick format when ordering and packing. This reduces storage costs, error rates sink and handling becomes easier.

***Protect XL-Pallet Shipper* is an economic success**

This innovation has really struck a nerve, because since the its market launch in summer 2017, Rölle and his team have already filled orders for over 500 units for a wide range of new and existing customers. "This is quite the success when you look at the long exploratory, qualification and introductory phases in the pharmaceutical industry", adds Zeilfelder. At the moment, eutecma is processing specific inquiries from USA, Thailand and Canada. The packaging experts are quick to point out a further product advantage in the internal plant transport, due to the fact that the *Protect XL-Pallet Shipper* can be reused multiple times and can be broken down quickly for compact transit and storage.

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Picture caption 1:

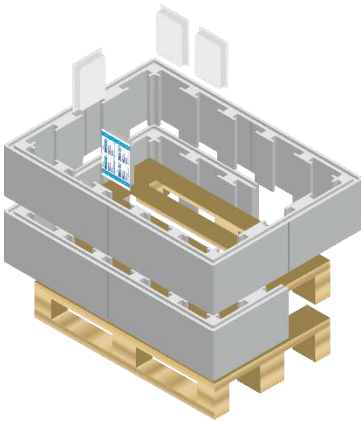
With the *Protect XL-Pallet Shipper*, the transport packaging specialist eutecma has developed a qualified, GDP-compliant passive cooling system that sets new standards in cost reduction and process optimization.



Picture credits: www.eutecma.de

Picture caption 2:

The innovative design of the *Protect XL-Pallet Shipper* builds upon three success factors: an easy-to-load base plate, self-standing frame elements in various heights and uniform cool brick formats for both temperature ranges Cool und Ambient.



Picture credits: www.eutecma.de

Picture caption 3: "One size fits all": From Ambient to Cool temperature ranges and from XS boxes to XL shipments – the universally usable passive cold storage units and passive heat storage units from eutecma fit in every size of box offered by the temperature-controlled packaging experts.



Picture credits: www.eutecma.de

About eutecma:

The chemist Markus Baumgärtner and Florian Zeilfelder, who holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration founded eutecma as a spin-off from ideapro gmbh, a company specializing in chemo-technical innovations. Since then they have been researching, developing and producing passive cooling systems with a team of 40 employees. Their systems are used to ensure that the cold chain is maintained for temperature sensitive products in the field of pharmaceutical, medical and laboratory diagnostics. One of their milestones was the development of *Icecatch Solid Insulated*, a water-based self-insulating passive cooling element with an integrated insulation layer. Aside from cooling elements, their product range includes innovative system package solutions, insulated boxes and temperature data loggers. If needed, eutecma works together with customers to develop customized passive cold storage solutions to highly individual needs and offers consultation services for complex tasks and qualified packaging solutions for temperature sensitive products.

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