

# Top 15 LTL Savings Tips

ONE THROUGH FIVE

## 1. **Make sure all packaging materials meet the requirements set forth in the NMFC. Proper packaging can minimize freight damage.**

- › Hone your packaging process. Evaluate strategies to increase density to provide better ROI on packaging dollars.
- › Ensure that all merchandise is packed securely with protection on all sides to minimize cargo claims potential.
- › Pack all freight with minimal empty space to avoid having your freight reclassified at a higher class because of lower density. Maximize space on the pallet.
- › Reuse your packing materials. It's easy to save and reuse bubble wrap, packing peanuts, air pillows and other packing materials and avoid repurchase.

## 2. **Stack freight securely, ensuring cartons do not hang over the pallet's edge.**

- › Create pallets that have flat tops. Pack to the pallet edge and to the height requirement.
- › Never use freight cones on top of pallets to prevent stacking on top. Don't pyramid boxes to prevent stacking on top. This interferes with trailer volume efficiency and most often leads to charges for unusable space.
- › Attach freight to the pallet with shrink wrap, otherwise it may slide and be damaged. This delays delivery and costs money in claims.

## 3. **Freight trailers can accommodate pallets 96 inches tall. If the freight is non-stackable, fully utilize the space from floor-to-ceiling where possible.**

- › If stackable, keep pallets to 48-50 in. maximum height. Pallets can then be loaded alongside others more easily, and the carrier can optimize trailer space.

## 4. **Avoid sticker shock. Make sure the destination of your freight is a direct service point for your carrier (or confirm your pricing applies on interline points). It is the payer's responsibility to know the pickup requirements of the shipper or the delivery requirements of the consignee.**

- › If a liftgate or limited access delivery will be required at destination, this should be confirmed at the time the quote is given to avoid invoicing surprises.
- › With the increase of handheld driver devices and third-party SaaS applications, these shipments should be located.

## 5. **Use the right shipping mode. If shipping a single 30 lb. piece, the cost of shipping with LTL carrier will usually exceed package carrier costs.**

- › Truckload is always cheaper than LTL, assuming you can fill load.
- › Volume LTL/Spot Rates: YRC Freight provides spot volume rates for shipments occupying as few as three pallet spots (eight linear feet on the trailer) and up. The spot rate may be lower than an LTL rate, particularly if it is a backhaul.

