



Temperature-Sensitive Packaging Snapshot

In 2015, *Pharmaceutical & Medical Packaging News* surveyed the Supply Chain Expert Community to better understand the effort manufacturers of pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and other healthcare-related products put into developing cold-chain packaging—and the results were revealing.

Below you'll find some of the survey findings along with a few insights from UPS.

Type of temperature-sensitive products shipped



31% refrigerated products



51% controlled room temperature products



17% frozen products

32% products that cannot be allowed to freeze



Insight: The industry is coming to accept that all products are temperature-sensitive.

Type of cold-chain packaging used

Off-the-shelf solution

40%

Custom-designed packaging

18%

Mix of both off-the-shelf and custom-designed packaging

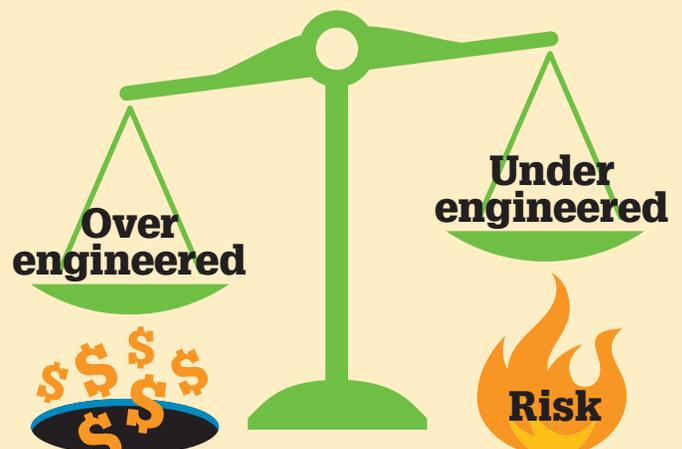
42%

Insight: Fewer than one in five companies has allocated resources to create a complete, scientifically customized packaging line. Nothing else can ensure optimally efficient product protection. Have the other companies done enough to ensure adequate patient protection?

Temperature-sensitive packaging efficiency

In answer to the question, “Are you content your packaging is more or less as efficient as it could be?”, 28% of respondents answered, “No.”

Insight: Products are traveling in packaging that is either over or under engineered, increasing costs or potentially putting patients in danger.

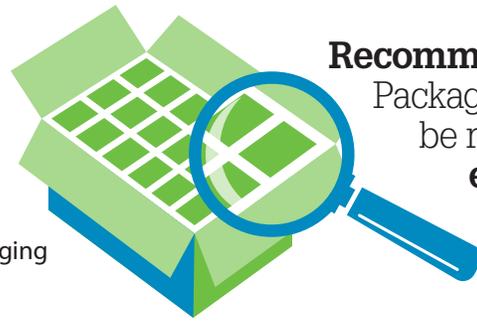


Expert packaging review

22% | 45%

have never had their cold-chain packaging reviewed by an expert

have no plans to have their packaging audited or reviewed by an expert



Recommendation:
Packaging should be reevaluated **every two years.**

How cold-chain packaging is qualified



About half trust the package supplier's qualification standard.

Insight: It's crucial to use the right package supplier, because standards vary widely—and not all may be right for you.

Known ambient environmental conditions

Only about one in five respondents has a complete picture from a professional study of the environment through which they send their shipments.

Insight: If you don't know the conditions through which your products pass, you can't package them correctly.



Priority given to packaging as a source of cost savings



Only about one-third of respondents said they make packaging a top priority and understand the cost implications of selecting the right packaging.

Tolerance for spoilage during transit

More than half of respondents reported that they had a goal of less than 0.5% rate of spoilage in transit.

Insight: Answers to other survey questions, however, suggest that the supply chain managers are not always adequately resourced to meet this task.

