Reefer Requirements
to Maintain Temperature and Save Fuel

BEFORE LOADING

1. Inspect the empty refrigerated boxcar.

- ✔ Check for damage.
- ✔ Clean out debris.
- ✔ Ensure floor drains are plugged.
- ✔ Pre-cool the empty rail car to within five degrees of the desired temperature.
- ✔ Verify the refrigeration unit is working properly and has enough fuel.
- ✔ Immediately notify UP of rail car defects or temperature issues

2. Check the temperature of the product you're loading.

- ✔ Product temperature should be within five degrees above or below the set point temperature.
- ✔ Heat or cool the product before loading if it is not within five degrees of the set point temperature.

OR

3. Ensure the loading area is properly cooled.

REMEMBER: Turn the refrigeration unit off any time the doors are open.

LOADING

1. Shut off the refrigeration
unit while the reefer doors are open for loading.

2. Load refrigerated freight
within four hours to protect the integrity of the product being shipped.

- ✔ **Tip:** Loading during cooler times of the day (early morning, evening, and nighttime) will also safeguard the cold chain.
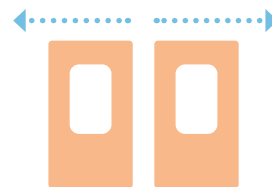
3. Follow AAR loading guidelines.
Click to view: AAR loading guidelines

4. Close the rail car door,
seal the car and turn the refrigeration unit back on.

- ✔ **Tip:** The seal must be a minimum 1/8' cable or bolt seal. Do not use a plastic or tin seal.

REMEMBER: Don't run the refrigeration unit during loading.

UNLOADING

1. Unload the refrigerated boxcar within 24
hours of arrival.

2. Shut off the refrigeration unit while the reefer
doors are open during unloading.

3. Clean out the rail car.
If the rail car is damaged or excessively dirty, release it with an exception or contact perishableoperations@up.com so the issue can be addressed.

4. Ensure floor drain plugs are re-secured
after cleaning.

5. Properly close and secure doors
and ensure the refrigeration unit is off.

REMEMBER:
- ✔ Shut off the refrigeration unit before opening the door to unload product.
- ✔ Double check the refrigeration unit is turned off before releasing the rail car.
- ✔ Turn the reefer unit off any time the doors are open.