

	Technical Information	730-179-EN		V02
	Different package types for shipping	Created	12.03.2021	HeK
		Changed	05.08.2021	KP
		Checked	05.08.2021	UK
		Released	05.08.2021	UK
File no.: 0.0 + 3.1				

Different products require different types of shipping package in order to arrive at the addressee without damage. The shipping package should protect against mechanical, chemical (e.g. moisture) and temperature influences. Since not all goods may be treated the same way, different types of packaging are required:

Here, GKE differentiates between two packaging temperatures, 2-8°C and 5-30°C, and two different packages for each of these two temperature windows. The decision which type of package is chosen is up to the customer, who is also responsible for the costs.

GKE has different temperature-sensitive product groups:

Normal temperature 5-30°C:

- A) All types of chemical indicators, biological indicator strips and SCBIs as well as sterile culture medium, PCDs, incubators and other accessories without expiry date.

These are packed and sent in standard shipping packaging. Only in extremely exceptional cases it could become critical if these products are going to hot countries with high humidity and may have to wait several weeks for customs clearance.

For those, for regulatory reasons, the pharmaceutical industry nevertheless wants insulated packaging that is equipped with data loggers.

Cooled transportation 2-8°C:

- B) Stearo-Ampoules

Stearo-Ampoules are temperature-stable up to 20°C for a short time, but have the problem that they start to grow at higher temperatures above 30°C for a longer time and therefore change their colour and are no longer usable afterwards. The advantage is that the problem is visible. This product is shipped under cooled conditions.

- C) Biological indicator suspensions

Here, the storage temperature of 2-8°C should not be exceeded, because otherwise a loss of population can occur if the storage temperature is above 8°C for a longer time.

Here, we recommend shipping with pharma packaging and data loggers, since these goods are basically sent to the pharma area anyway. This way you can always be sure afterwards that the shipping temperature conditions have been met. However, the decision for or against pharma packaging is always up to the customer.

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The following four packaging versions exist:

Packaging temperature Packaging type	Normal temperature	Cooled products
Standard packaging	Standard p. 1 5-30°C	Standard p. 2 2-8°C
Pharma packaging with data logger	Pharma 3 5-30°C	Pharma 4 2-8°C

Which transportation method is used is decided by the product, i.e. cooled or normal temperature, and in the second step by the customer, if pharma or standard packaging.

1.) Standard shipment for normal temperature products 5-30°C:

Shipment in cardboard packaging, depending on the size of the material to be shipped.

2.) Standard cooled shipment 2-8°C:

Shipping in cooled packaging for cooled goods 2-8°C only as express shipping up to max. 3-4 days transportation time. Will not be shipped over the weekend or public holidays.

3.) Pharma packaging for normal temperature products 5-30°C:

The pharma packaging can be used as insulating transportation packaging for normal temperature goods 5-30°C. The cooling elements from the pharma packaging are at room temperature and are not preconditioned (frozen). The cooling elements only serve to insulate against temperature influences from outside during transportation. A data logger is enclosed in the packaging and documents the temperature during transportation. The evaluation can be done using any computer with a USB port - a pdf file is automatically generated by the data logger.

4.) Pharma packaging for cooled shipment products 2-8°C:

The pharma packaging can also be used as cooled transportation packaging for temperature-sensitive goods 2-8°C. With this option, the cooling elements are preconditioned (frozen) at -20°C or 2-8°C for transportation. A data logger is enclosed in the packaging and documents the temperature during transportation. The evaluation can be done using any computer with a USB port - a pdf file is automatically generated by the data logger.