4 Reefer Loading Practices to Keep Your Cargo Cool!

✓ **Be Cool and Pre-Cool:** Refrigerated cargo should always be loaded into a truck or trailer that has been pre-cooled to the proper temperature determined by the shipper. Pre-cooling is very important because excess heat in the cargo space or walls could transfer to the product and raise its temperature. A reefer unit only maintains temperature; it’s not designed to lower the temperature.

✓ **Pulp, Pulp, Pulp:** Refrigerated cargo should be at its preferred temperature when loaded into the truck or trailer. To safeguard against temp issues at the receiver, pulp the product as it’s loaded to ensure it isn't being loaded warm. Record the temperature of the product on the shipping documents at time of receipt.

✓ **Keep Your Air Flowing:** Poor air distribution is a primary cause of problems during transit. Inadequate airflow in your trailer can result in hot spots which can quickly damage temperature sensitive product. To ensure proper airflow you must use a reefer which has an air chute to help with even air distribution.

✓ **Order a Recorder:** This device could mean the difference between a perfect load and a claim if there is a temperature issue at the receiver. Temperature recorders are crucial elements in refrigerated produce loads. They keep a record of the in-transit temperature for the duration of a trip. Mount the device securely on the wall of your trailer, checking that the recorder is in good working order and is turned on.

Adhering to these seemingly basic tips can do you a load of good when it comes to assuring the safety of refrigerated goods in transit.

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