Shipping Guides

Ship your products safety and securely with CPKC. We've put together the following guide to help you with what you need to know when shipping intermodal with CPKC:

Intermodal

We ship millions of tons of freight every day and accomplishing this is no small feat. It takes effective communication and teamwork on all ends, including yours.

Our Intermodal Shipping Guide answers your questions about shipping with Canadian Pacific. An easy-to-reference manual, it includes information about rates and credit, our fleet, service plans, ordering equipment and load releases.

Where you need us to be

CPKC's main network is just the starting point. CPKC has the partnerships and connections to get you anywhere within the North American continent you need to be.

Utilizing 19 strategically located terminals, servicing all major centers across North America, we've seamlessly bridged Canada, the United States and Mexico with each other and the rest of the world.

Serving major ports on the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf of Mexico within Canada, the U.S. and Mexico, Canadian Pacific Kansas City Intermodal service is the leading provider of rail access to overseas container railway. For customers whose business extends beyond North America, we deliver to a transportation network that spans the entire globe.

With the depth and breadth of our reach and facilities, we offer the shortest and most direct route between:

- The Port of Vancouver and Chicago
- Mexico's industrial heartland to the U.S. Midwest (Chicago)
- Port of Saint John, NB to Montreal, QB

Visit our intermodal terminals and schedules as well as our port schedules here.

Service Plans

CPKC offers various service plans and your Account Manager can assist you with the best service plan that meets your needs.
Service plans include:

- Door Direct Service - We provide you with the economies of rail service for the long-haul and the flexibility of truck service for either the pickup and/or delivery in one complete service package.
- Terminal Direct Service - Whether in a CPKC owned container or your own private container, we provide reliable and efficient ramp-to-ramp service.
- CPKC Logistics Solutions - Customized solutions for your unique business needs.

CPKC Domestic Intermodal Service Schedule (Ramp – Ramp)

We are committed to provide you with scheduled service. In order for us to meet our commitment to you, it is imperative that your shipment in-gates the CPKC Origin terminal before in-gate cutoff time and leaves on the train coinciding with your RAD (Requested Arrival Date).

Availability mentioned in the grid is an estimate and depending on which day of the week you ship it could vary. For a more accurate ETA please check Customer Station to track and trace your shipment.

If the information you require is unavailable, please contact Customer Service in Canada, the United State, or Mexico.

Our domestic intermodal schedule estimates transit times for CPKC intermodal services.

Here's how to read it:

- Let's say you load and release a container on Monday. That will be considered day 0.
- If the transit time is shown as "available day 3 morning," then the shipment will be available for delivery Thursday morning.
- Evening availability is defined as 12 p.m. onward.

Visit our intermodal terminal schedules here.

Whether you have your own equipment, or choose to use CPKC-controlled equipment, outbound loads must be in the terminal by the relevant cut-off time to ensure departure on the next train. For CPKC door pickups please ensure at least 4 hours is provided to the Centralized Operations Group (COG) before a load is to be released. Loads released after the notice deadlines may be delayed.

Automated Gate Kiosks (FASTPASS)

At most CPKC terminals drivers will gain access through the automated gate kiosk process which is changing the way that trucks enter and exit CPKC intermodal terminals. With CPKC Fastpass, truck and container processing times at some CPKC intermodal facilities have gone from minutes to seconds with the "CP FastPass" mobile app. This new app seamlessly transfers the driver's billing information to the CPKC intermodal check-in gate. Using the container's ID, the driver can enter this mobile app to obtain the pickup status of the container and more.

Please visit this video to learn the details about our Fastpass program.

Note: not all CPKC Intermodal facilities are equipped at this time with FastPass.

FastPass training documents, user guides, FAQs, etc can be found on Customer Station.

Safety Rules for Carriers

At CPKC, Safety is one of our core foundations. We are obligated to ensure our terminals are a safe environment to work in.

1) Motor Carrier Safety

For us to maintain our status as the safest railway in North America, we are changing the violation process to ensure all permitted carriers are working as safely as possible when coming onto our property.

When a driver creates an unsafe condition or violates a rule that driver will be suspended for:

- First Violation: 24-hour suspension
- Second Violation: 72-hour suspension
- Third Violation: the driver will be denied access from working at CPKC Intermodal terminals for an indefinite period of time at Management's discretion

Know the rules you need to follow in our intermodal yards to ensure the safety of you and our employees.
Watch the Video

CPKC

2) PPE Requirement

When on CPKC property, drivers must wear approved personal protective equipment and clothing that meets the industry's safety standards (CSA, ANSI). These include as a minimum:

- Hard Hat
- Safety Glasses with mounted side shields
- A high visibility traffic vest fastened-or clothing
- Safety footwear laced fully

Drivers failing to produce these safety items will be denied access at the In-gate

Our fleet

To satisfy the varied transportation needs of all our customers, CPKC Intermodal railcars are able to move all ISO certified containers. Container types vary between dry, reefers and heaters. Container sizes vary between 53', 40' and 20'. The maximum cargo weight on shipments varies by province and state.

You may learn more about them here.

See the chart below for general equipment types and specifications:

53' refrigerated container	Canada	United States
Usable Space	3,390 cu.ft.	3,390 cu.ft.
Length	49'8"	49'8"
Width	8'1"	8'1"
Height	8'5"	8'5"
Maximum Payload: Tandem Chassis	46,000 lbs	40,000 lbs
Maximum Payload: Tridem Chassis	58,000 lbs	

53' SlimLine refrigerated container	Canada	United States
Usable Space	3,430 cu.ft.	3,430 cu.ft.
Length	50'5"	50'5"
Width	8'1"	8'1"
Height	8'5"	8'5"
Maximum Payload: Tandem Chassis	46,000 lbs	40,000 lbs
Maximum Payload: Tridem Chassis	58,000 lbs	

53' heated container	Canada	United States
Usable Space	3,760 cu.ft.	3,760 cu.ft.
Length	52'3"	52'3"
Width	8'1"	8'1"
Height	8'9"	8'9"
Maximum Payload: Tandem Chassis	47,000 lbs	40,000 lbs
Maximum Payload: Tridem Chassis	59,000 lbs	

Supplemental Services

Supplemental Services are those that go beyond the standard hauling of freight. This can include detention, extra deliveries, re-consignment, overweight shipments, and other.

We have worked hard to simplify and consolidate our rules and tariffs for Supplemental Services. For complete regulations and Supplemental Services rates, please see Tariff 3 on our Pricing and Tariffs web page.

If you require further information, please contact your Account Manager.