



# TRUCK UNLOADING & REUSABLE CRATE RETURN

- **Our steel posts and rails are crated with steel crate ends, wooden bottoms, full cardboard end protection, center wrap and a cardboard cover. Each item comes in a poly bag.**
  - a. Full Rail crates are 115" long and weigh 1670#. Because of their length it is recommended to have a fork rating of at least 1.5 tons (3000#) to avoid any tipping due to the long load.
  - b. Post crates only weigh 780# and are 101" long.
  - c. Crates are stackable to three high within the trailer.
- **Always use 6 foot fork extenders to prevent damage to the load or excessive tipping.**
- **Lift only one crate at a time.**
- **Crates can be stacked 3 high in the truck. There is plenty of headroom to lift them one at a time.**
- **In field unloading lift crates only from the back end of the truck.**
  - a. *Be sure the truck trailer is on a level surface before unloading, use plywood boards under the wheels if necessary to level the trailer. Unlevel trailers can result in tipping of crate stacks when sliding the back to the door opening and this can be dangerous.*
  - b. You can pull and slide the stacked post and rail crates back to the end of the trailer. Since the stacks can be 3 high they can weigh 5000# on a full rail stack. It is recommended to hook the chains to the innermost crate end (trailer front side) on rail stacks so the crate ends are not trying to pull apart.  
*Warning: No one should be in the trailer during sliding as this may cause injury or death.*
  - c. In the case where the innermost crate ends are inaccessible it is ok to pull on the rearward facing crate ends but you must use two slings to pull on both the bottom and the center crate on a three crate rail stack and loop your chain to the two slings so the crate bands don't stretch or break.

- **Gates are individually wooden crated on ocean shipments and are removed only by hand. We allow vertical stacking two high and so for large gates it is recommended to use three people to hand unload from the top level. In truck shipments these gates are banded to long pallets and can be fork truck lifted- with extended fork (6 foot). Drive slowly with the long gate pallets so as to prevent excessive bobbing that may damage the pallet.**
- **If you have any questions on how to unload just give us a call at 877-306-4024 and we will be glad to walk you through the proper techniques.**
- **Notes**
  - Ocean shipments of full containers permit a two hour free unloading time. You will be charged \$75 per extra hour that is beyond that time limit.
  - All steel crate ends and gate pallets, along with plastic mats and pallet parts, are to be collected, stacked and returned with freight paid by Buckley. We have a packing procedure for optimum return loading; please reference the [crate return](#) video and the [gate pallet return](#) videos, which can be found through the links on our website.
  - On crate returns that have large volumes of crate ends (20 and up) and are within 500 miles of Commerce City, CO, we would like also to get back the wood and cardboard packing materials for reuse along with the steel crate ends. These can be stacked in one steel crate and banded together like the crates were in shipment.
  - If you ever see damage due to mishandling by the shipping company please do the following:
    - a. Take pictures of the damaged material while it is still on the truck and before you move it.
    - b. Sign the trucker's bill of lading papers as damaged materials to be assessed; please don't just sign accepting the shipment as there will be no recourse for recovery.

