



FAQs REFRIGERATED CONTAINER SAFETY

- Q. Where should I affix the Danger decal on the refrigerated container?**
- A.** The decal should be affixed to the outside surface of the right hand container access door, where it will be clearly visible to any person opening or closing the door. The top edge of the decal should be positioned 180cm above ground level. The surface area should be cleaned with soapy water and dried prior to applying the decal.
- Q. What do you mean by “Risk of Entrapment in Refrigerated Containers”?**
- A.** There are a number of foreseeable situations where personnel could become entrapped within a refrigerated container. These include, but are not limited to:
- A person locking container doors, without checking if another person is inside.
 - Open container door slammed shut by the wind, while a person is inside.
 - Container doors obstructed by a vehicle/forklift, while a person is inside.
 - Container doors obstructed by fallen material/pallets, while a person is inside.
 - Internal release latch (where fitted) fails to open container door when pushed.
 - External alarm (where fitted) fails to sound when internal button is activated.
- Q. What periodic checks/maintenance are required for safety features?**
- A.** Like all mechanical systems, exposure to low temperatures, or harsh use, may damage or impair normal function of doors, internal door release latches, alarms and lighting. All of these must be regularly checked (at least weekly) for correct operation and function. Periodic maintenance or repairs should only be completed by qualified personnel. Contact your local Royal Wolf depot to arrange this.



Q: What other precautions can I take?

- A.** Where possible, including, but not limited to:
- Ensure personnel are trained in the safe use of the refrigerated container
 - Ensure only authorised personnel can enter the refrigerated container
 - Ensure another person remains outside the container, while a person is inside.
 - Ensure open container doors are restrained by a hold-back device.
 - Ensure area in front of doors remains accessible and free of vehicles/materials
 - Log functional tests of safety features, and display last tested date/person

Q. What is a generic risk assessment?

- A.** A generic risk assessment is specific to the task or activity you are carrying out, but not specific to a particular site or project. Most of the hazards and consequential risks associated with operating a refrigerated container, for example, will be the same wherever you are working. But that's most of the hazards and risks, not all of them.

Q. Do you have a generic risk assessment for refrigerated containers?

- A.** Yes. Please refer to [Reefer Risk Assessment Refrigerated Containers 30 June 2015](#)

Q. What is a site specific risk assessment?

- A.** A generic risk assessment can become site specific, by having a competent person adapt it to the site or project under assessment. Site specific risk assessments take into account the actual site conditions and type of project, and address only the relevant hazards. Your competent person will need to review the project and site conditions, remove any hazards that are not applicable, and include any site specific hazards that have not been addressed in the generic risk assessment.

Q. Can you provide a general checklist to undertake a site specific risk assessment?

- A.** Yes. Please refer to [Site Specific Inspection Checklist](#)



Q. I have a refrigerated container on hire from RWT. Does it have all the required safety features to comply with OHS regulations?

A. As an innovator in the container industry, Royal Wolf has been developing and installing various improvements to traditional refrigerated shipping container doors in the interests of safety and ease of use. These improvements, such as internal door release handles, personnel alarms and internal lighting, aim to mitigate the risk of entrapment in refrigerated containers, and, to comply with statutory regulations for refrigerated containers used in “cool-room” type storage applications including “events”.

Your Royal Wolf refrigerated container may or may not have some or all of these features fitted. If you are unsure, please email safetyalert@royalwolf.co.nz with details of your enquiry, and one of our experienced staff will contact you.

Q. Does my owned refrigerated container comply with OHS regulations?

A. This will depend on what primary application you are using your existing refrigerated container for, and which applicable safety features, if any, have been installed. If you are unsure, please email safetyalert@royalwolf.co.nz with details of your enquiry, and one of our experienced staff will contact you.

Q. Can you add the required safety features to my owned refrigerated container?

A. All the safety features can be retro-fitted to existing containers used in static storage applications. If you would like a quotation, please email safetyalert@royalwolf.co.nz with details of your enquiry, and one of our experienced staff will contact you.

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Head Office: 2-8 Jarvis Way, Otara Auckland 2016 New Zealand

P.O. Box 22662 Otahuhu Auckland 1640

A subsidiary of Royal Wolf Holdings Limited – an ASX listed entity (RWH)

Phone: +64 9 274 3606

Fax: +64 9 274 3051

royalwolf.co.nz