



Intermediate Bulk Containers Frequently Asked Questions

How often should IBCs be retested?

Per 49 CFR 180.352, federal regulations state all IBCs should be tested as least once every 30 months. All stainless steel IBCs manufactured with UN marking also need a thickness test every 60 months.

How do I tell if an IBC has a current test date?

The date of the most recent periodic retest must be marked on the tank on or near the metal manufacturer's plate, 49 CFR 180.352.

Can stainless steel IBCs be pressurized?

Stainless steel IBCs are atmospheric tanks. They are not designed to be pressurized.

What is the tare weight of a stainless steel IBC?

Each IBC has the tare weight marked on the manufacturer's plate located on the front corner of the IBC.

How many empty stainless steel IBCs will fit on a trailer?

350-gallon IBCs --- 48 in a 48' trailer; 52 in a 53' trailer.
550-gallon IBCs --- 24 in a 48' trailer; 26 in a 53' trailer

How high can I stack stainless steel IBCs?

Be sure not to exceed the maximum stacking load listed on the manufacturer's plate located on the front upper corner of the IBC.

What are the closure requirements for stainless steel IBCs?

Per 49 CFR, all openings, including filling and vent holes, must be tightly closed prior to shipment.

[Click here to view the lid tightening procedures.](#)

The 2" bung plug and the 3" fill cap both require a gasket to seal and 30 foot pounds of torque for proper sealing.



Do I need a Secondary Closure?

Yes, it is a legal requirement to fit a secondary closure to the discharge valve. The secondary closure may be a cam lock adaptor and dust cap or a threaded shipping plug.

How do I know if my product is compatible with a stainless steel IBC?

Compatibility should be checked with the chemical supplier. There are a number of websites that provide basic compatibility information. One of the more extensive sites can be found [here](#).

How do I know if my product is compatible with the gasket material on a stainless steel IBC?

Compatibility should be checked with the chemical supplier. There are a number of websites that provide basic compatibility information. A helpful guide can be found [here](#).