



## Packing & Shipping

HUMAN BLOOD  
AVOID EXTREME TEMPERATURE  
PERISHABLE PRODUCT

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### Shipping Platelets in a E-38XW Platelet Container

- 1. Examine the shipping container for the following:**
  - The exterior is in good condition and has minimal repairs.
  - The inner lid and interior insulated liner do not have breaks, punctures, or other damage that might impact the container's ability to maintain acceptable temperatures.
  - Any evidence of a previous blood spill
- 2. Place one sheet of new and unused absorbent material (folded to fit) on the bottom of the shipping container.**



- 3. Place 1-inch bubble wrap on the bottom and along the two long sidewalls of the shipping container.**



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4. Place two clean Red Cross supplied (from previous shipments) temperature stabilizing packs (TSPs) at a temperature range of 20°C to 24°C on top of the bubble wrap.

Recommended method to check the temperature of clean TSPs: a clean certified or validated thermometer.

- Roll or fold each clean TSP to condense the surface area.
- Place the clean thermometer probe in the center of the roll or fold.
- Allow the thermometer to stabilize, with no change in the reading, before obtaining the temperature.





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5. Place a new unused plastic bag inside the shipping container and the second absorbent sheet of new and unused (folded to fit) inside the plastic bag.



*The maximum number of Apheresis platelets is limited to 4 bags.* Place products inside the plastic bag and on top of the absorbent material in a manner that does not create a pressure point on the product bag (for example from the ports or clips).

If product...	Then pack the product...
Can be placed within the shipping container flat with no folding.	Flat with the ports alternating as each product is placed on the stack.
Must be folded to fit within the shipping container.	By folding the bag at the bottom, not at the ports. With the ports alternating as each product is placed on the stack.

Example product with ports alternating with the stack.



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Short side of shipping container

Long side of shipping container



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### 6. Close the plastic bag.

- Tie or band the plastic bag in a manner that does not create a large knot or pressure point, for example, using one of the two methods below.

#### Method One:

**Step 1.**  
Twist plastic bag into pigtail while removing excess air from the bag.



**Step 2.**  
Tie or band bag at the far end, away from the product and release the pigtail.



**Step 3.**  
Push excess bag to the sides of the box, away from the product.



#### Method Two:

**Step 1.**  
Twist plastic bag into pigtail while removing excess air from the bag.



**Step 2.**  
Tie or band bag close to the product, release pigtail and create a plume or flower effect.



**Step 3.**  
Push excess bag to the sides of the box, away from the product.



If there is excess space that may allow movement during shipping, then use bubble wrap to fill the excess space on the sides of the container.

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**Caution:** Do not add additional bubble wrap on top.

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**American  
Red Cross**

*Advancing patient care, around the corner and across the nation*

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7. Place two clean TSPs with a temperature range of 20°C to 24°C on top of the bubble wrap.

Recommended method to check the temperature of clean TSPs using a clean certified or validated thermometer.

- Roll or fold each clean TSP to condense the surface area.
- Place the clean thermometer probe in the center of the roll or fold.
- Allow the thermometer to stabilize, with no change in the reading, before obtaining the temperature.



Insert the foam plug in the shipping container, ensuring the plug is flush with the top surface of the shipping container insulation.





8. **Close the shipping container.**
  - Tape the shipping container closed in a manner that does not obscure any required labels.
  
9. **Label the shipping container.**
  - Remove or cover any previous labels or markings.
  - Affix the shipping label.