

# Challenger Pallet & Supply

Idaho Falls, ID



Before World War II, all goods (freight) were loaded and delivered by hand on trucks and trailers. With the onset of the war, military goods and food supplies were being shipped in mass volume, across the country and around the world. Pallets became a necessary commodity for the U.S. military in order to expedite shipments of much needed rations and supplies. Thus, shipping on pallets became the necessity of the day not only for the military, but manufacturers also began shipping this way. Shipping long distances over the newly developed interstate highway system during the 1950s grew the United States economy at a rapid pace. Wooden pallets were a must have for anyone looking to ship large amounts of goods to the marketplace.



*The pallet process starts by unloading the industrial grade lumber.*

Entrepreneur, Victor Hegsted and his wife Gloria found their



*The pallet assembly process begins as each pallet passes through the nailer and down the line for inspection.*

niche in the pallet industry in the late 1960s. The Eastern Idaho sugar beet and potato markets needed pallets as they began selling their products around the country. In 1972, Victor purchased land just north of Idaho Falls, ID, which became the home office and main site of the company.

Ten years later tragedy struck, in November of 1982, Victor was lost in a single-engine plane crash while flying home from a visit to Salt Lake City, UT. Gloria, their son Tad, and son-in-law, Kelly Bennion, forged ahead with the young business. After much hard work, sacrifice, and determination, they were successful in making Challenger Pallet what it is today.

Today the company is still headquartered in Idaho Falls, ID and also has facilities in Utah and Montana. The advantage of having three facilities gives Challenger Pallet the ability to pro-

vide pallets to nearly anywhere in the Intermountain West. Challenger also works with a dedicated network of outside carriers that expands coverage to seven western states that include Idaho, Utah, Montana, Nevada, Wyoming, Colorado, Oregon, and beyond.

Challenger Pallet provides exceptional customer service and strives to maintain hassle free pallet delivery. The company employs dependable drivers and maintains a fleet of eight semi-tractors. The company has a wide variety of trailers from enclosed vans to flatbeds and small gooseneck trailers. If a customer needs “drop-trailer” services, Challenger Pallet can meet the need by providing one of its many 53’ vans to the customer’s dock.

Challenger’s pallets can be designed to fit any shipping need. The company uses Pallet Design System (PDS) developed at Virginia Tech University, a computer-aided engineering tool created to design pallets. PDS takes the guesswork out of pallet specifications. It assures that the specifications for each pallet are designed for the requested service. The pallets are not



*Challenger Pallet and Supply manufactures thousands of pallets per day.*

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overbuilt, using an unnecessary amount of lumber, but built to the most optimum strength for the job. This can decrease the price of pallets and save money over the long haul.

Each customer has a different requirement for its shipping needs, from a few hundred pounds to several thousand pounds. The PDS software provides structural analysis that predicts how pallets will perform in various situations today. The specially designed pallets provide a positive impact on the environment. By increasing the quality of the pallet, it is possible to lower packaging costs in other areas. The better the pallet supports a product, the less packaging materials is needed for the outside of the product being shipped. PDS designed pallets are also analyzed for performance on a pallet in a rack system, being double or triple stacked in a warehouse, being lifted by a forklift, and many other scenarios. The engineering program has a safety factor built in that assures its customer's pallet can safely hold the calculated weight that is requested.



*The Challenger team is dedicated to the customer, shipping pallets with speed and efficiency.*



*Challenger Pallet is certified on a monthly basis to produce ISPM-15 pallets for international use.*

Challenger Pallet provides custom crate services. Production of two basic styles of large wooden crates and pallets. Stringer pallets, built with 2x4's that run the length of the pallet are the most commonly used pallets. Challenger also provides a block pallet. Block pallets use wooden blocks for supports between the top and bottom decks instead of a 2x4 stringer. These pallets have to be built by hand so they do require more lead time.

Wooden containers are often used to ship important products and loose materials. These can be simple boxes with lids that have hinges or doors that simply bolt onto the walls or even bins.

International shipments use pallets that are ISPM-15 certified. Global shipments between countries have increased, so too has the use of pallets. Foreign species of lumber which sometimes

harbor bugs have moved across the seas and borders where they previously couldn't travel. By heat-treating the lumber in pallets, manufacturers are able to prevent the spread of any invasive insect species. Challenger Pallet is certified on a monthly basis, by Timber Products Inspection, to provide heat treatments that guarantee the pallets are up to the ISPM standards and are stamped ISPM-15.

Challenger Pallet, uses top of the line equipment to produce high quality pallets. The company uses Viking Engineering nailing equipment, high-quality saws from Baker Products, Pacific Trail, Storti Machinery, and others to custom cut the lumber that goes into every pallet. The employees of Challenger Pallet have multiple years of experience and combine their training every day to produce the best pallet available.

See *Build Your Legacy - Challenger Pallet and Supply* on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZkM5GKbCyLA&feature=youtu.be>



*• On-time delivery • No excuse service • Can-do attitude*

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