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Stoughton Raises the Bar with Its New 53-Ft. Domestic Refrigerated Container

New refrigerated container delivers advanced thermal performance, rugged durability and purpose-built intermodal design

STOUGHTON, Wis. — September 15, 2026 — Stoughton Trailers, a national leader in transportation equipment, brings a new level of performance to refrigerated intermodal transportation with the launch of its 53-ft. Domestic Refrigerated Container, engineered to deliver the thermal integrity, strength and durability required for demanding temperature-controlled operations.

Built on the proven construction of Stoughton's PureBlue® refrigerated trailer, the new domestic refrigerated container combines a highly insulated structure with durable components and features designed specifically for intermodal operations. The 53-ft. container features a 102-inch interior height and three-high stacking capability.

"Stoughton has extensive experience engineering equipment that withstands the demands of both refrigerated transportation and intermodal operations," said Todd Eicher, Vice President of Refrigerated Products. "With our new refrigerated container, we've brought those strengths together in a design focused on thermal integrity, durability and long-term performance."

Engineered to Maintain Temperature and Reduce Air Loss

The new container incorporates 2-inch insulation within smooth flat-panel sidewalls. Bonded posts are positioned between panel seams, reducing the number of rivets and potential leak points while improving thermal performance. The flat-panel construction also creates a clean exterior surface for fleet and company graphics.



At the rear, Stoughton's exclusive triple-wiper door seal is designed to maintain its shape and provide a consistently tight closure. Unlike conventional compression gaskets that can develop a permanent set over time, the triple-wiper design delivers proven airtight performance.

Durability and corrosion protection are incorporated throughout the container. Most critical structural components are galvanized to help extend service life, while fully galvanized stacking posts incorporate protective clearance zones and drainage. A 4-3/4-in. upper casting is integrated within the insulation to maintain the container profile, and a recessed lower frame helps protect against IBC damage.

The refrigeration unit is protected by a rugged galvanized frame designed to safeguard the TRU during stacking and transit. Fastened construction also helps simplify repairs if damage occurs.

The proven heavy-duty duct floor features a fully enclosed design with proprietary thermo-plastic insulators for superior load support and durability. A knurled surface adds skid resistance, while a 10-inch composite scuff (measured from the floor), protected rear sill and four dock plates help prevent loading damage. Options include 20,000-lb. duct and flat floor configurations. Other insulation thicknesses are available. High-performance polymer floor insulators replace wood in the container, extending floor life by eliminating deterioration.

Clean, Durable Interior Construction

Stoughton designed the container to minimize exposed hardware inside the cargo area. Heavy-duty Huck fasteners create strong, vibration-resistant joints, while 3/8-inch blind fasteners minimize exposed interior fasteners and drilled holes for a cleaner interior.

Cargo security is provided by heavy-duty double-lock rods. Heavy-duty 4-inch steel hinges with recessed hinge butts are engineered specifically for container applications.

"With refrigerated freight, every detail that helps maintain temperature, protect the load and keep equipment operating reliably matters," added Eicher. "From the sidewall construction and door seal to the galvanized structural components, duct floor and refrigeration-unit protection, this container was engineered with those priorities in mind."

The new 53-ft. Domestic Refrigerated Container further expands Stoughton's intermodal equipment portfolio and provides fleets with a Stoughton-engineered solution for temperature-controlled domestic intermodal transportation.



Photo: <Stoughton Domestic Refrigerated Container on 53-ft Stoughton Chassis>

About Stoughton Trailers

Stoughton Trailers is one of the largest manufacturers of semi-truck trailers in North America. The Wisconsin-based company designs, manufactures and markets a wide range of dependable semi-trailers as well as intermodal containers and chassis used for over-the-road trucking, agricultural trailers and other specialty transportation equipment. It provides one-stop build, finance, rental and fleet management solutions through world-class responsiveness and design value. For more information, visit StoughtonTrailers.com.