



PRC Composites Launches New Aerospace EPIC Containers™



PRC Composites LLC (www.prccal.com), based in Ontario, California, has expanded its offering into the Aerospace Industry with custom designed composite reusable **EPIC Containers™** providing safe and reliable transportation of high value parts, components and other assets.

PRC **EPIC Containers™** employ highly **ENGINEERED** designs, **PROTECTIVE** packaging, custom **INTERNAL** dunnage and tough **COMPOSITE** construction to reduce packaging costs, prevent shipping damage and optimize supply chain efficiency. Unlike heavier, single-use wood crates which contribute to global deforestation, PRC **EPIC Containers™** reduce shipping and damage costs by as much as 50%, typical ROI in less than 2 years and have an expected lifecycle of at least 100 shipments.

PRC initiated work in the Aerospace component and parts segment over 3 years ago with a large Aerostructures Company. The company was looking for a new solution versus the current wood crates which were heavy, expensive, one-time use, needed special disassembly and disposal. The use of wood crates for shipping these high value parts was resulting in part damage from inconsistent dunnage, water penetrating the package, and lack of secure features to move the parts safely. The wood crates were also oversized leading to special freight handling and added weight driving higher shipping costs.

During the initial product development phase PRC worked very closely with the customer to understand the current process from part production source/location through final assembly on the commercial aircraft. The program supply chain involves eight different parts with values in excess of \$500,000 each from numerous global sources delivering to the aircraft assembly location where roughly 150 twin aisle commercial jets are produced annually.

The PRC Engineering team has worked with the customer to detail and design every feature of the new **EPIC Containers™** from removable casters to transport parts effectively within the factories, fork pockets for container loading/unloading, efficient sizing for the part to fit into standard ocean shipping containers, lift rings for safe cover removal, custom internals including molded in features, foam supports, padded restraints and custom dunnage to secure the parts significantly reducing the possibility for damage. The **EPIC Containers™** are also nestable for efficient return shipment back to the origin for reuse at a return ratio of three empties for every one part shipment.

The PRC Customer team also works with prospective clients and applications to develop a custom cost savings calculation model which delivers resulting return on investment considering all key inputs comparing one-time use wood crates to tough and multi-use **EPIC Containers™**.

The first containers rolled off the line in late 2017 at PRC's Ontario, CA facility. Initial response from the customer is positive and prospective clients are identifying packaging opportunities to replace one time use wood crates with an innovative, reusable and sustainable option. Custom containers are being developed or considered for parts such as fan cowls, exhausts, thrust reverser assemblies, inlets, rudders, leading and trailing edges, vertical fins, tail cones, horizontal stabilizers, winglets and other high value aerospace parts.

PRC President, Gene Gregory, said in an August 16, 2018 press release, "The launch of our new **EPIC Containers™** expands PRC's business beyond our historical engine and Defense offerings. We expect the Aerospace Industry adoption of safe, reusable and sustainable **EPIC Containers™** to drive significant growth for years to come."

PRC Composites is the leading manufacturer of composite Packaging, Handling, Storage and Transportation (PHST) containers for high value aerospace, military and commercial parts, components and assets. Our innovative custom composite containers are a sustainable and environmentally-friendly alternative to traditional one-time use wood crates.

PRC Composites is a tribally-controlled, privately held, minority business enterprise which employs in excess of 120 at a 100,000 square foot facility in Ontario, California. Its primary markets served include aerospace, defense (DOD), transportation, safety and infrastructure. PRC's capabilities include producing custom bulk and sheet molding compounds with a variety of different resins (polyester, vinyl, epoxy and phenolic), fibers/mat (glass and carbon) and additives. PRC's manufacturing processes include compression, open, hand lay-up, vacuum bag and vacuum infusion molding to produce composite parts such as high value content (aerospace, military munitions, unmanned aircraft vehicles, aircraft parts) transportation containers, utility vault covers, food service trays and detectable warning panels. PRC is a recognized Silver Supplier to Boeing for six consecutive years, AS9100 certified and qualifies for the Indian Incentive Program working with prime DOD contractors.

For more information contact
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