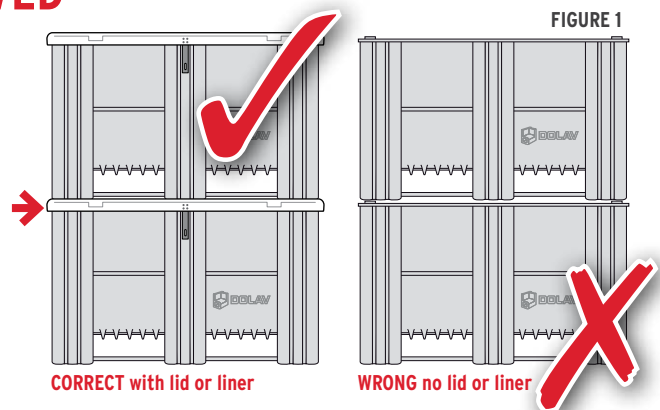


# Hygiene Best Practice in using Dolav Ace Pallet Boxes in Food Handling

Dolav pallet boxes are made from materials FDA and EU approved for direct contact with food. Dolav pallet boxes have been assessed as being of Hygienic Design by Campden BRI. Users must follow strict cleansing and testing regimes to ensure their safe use in the food handling environment.

## WHEN DOLAV BOXES ARE RECEIVED

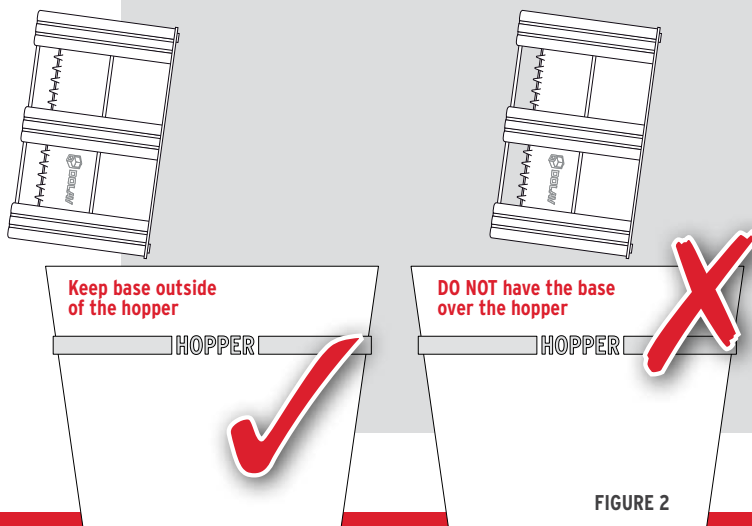
- 1) Wash boxes before use, including when received fresh from the manufacturer.
- 2) Check every box for damage and follow the manufacturer's recommendations about action.
- 3) Be aware that the underside of the pallet base is in direct contact with potentially unclean surfaces.
- 4) Wrap cleaned boxes for storage or transport to filling point.



## USING DOLAV BOXES

- 1) When transporting or storing food in stacked pallet boxes always either use lids on every box or hold food in disposable liners and ensure that the liner is carefully folded over the top of the food content (see figure 1).

- 2) Do not overfill boxes that are to be stacked. The centre runner on the underside of an upper box can come into contact with the food in the lower box.
- 3) When tipping boxes to remove food content or moving food over the box rim please be aware that the rim as well as the inside of the box will come into contact with the food. Therefore the same cleanliness standards are required for the rim as for the inside of the box.
- 4) When tipping a box please ensure that underside of that box is never over receptor vessel to avoid dropping possible contaminants from the underside of the box. Please tip from above and to one side of the receptor vessel (see figure 2).



Users of Dolav pallet boxes and lids are advised to establish food handling guidelines for their operations and to ensure that they are meticulously followed



## HANDLING DOLAV BOXES

- 1) Dolav boxes can be moved using hand pallet trucks, standard pallet trucks, and pallet trucks with rotating forks plus various tilting and tipping devices. Please note that any contamination on the handling equipment could be transferred to the outside of the Dolav box.
- 2) Dolav boxes should be examined between each use to ensure that they are not damaged. Boxes can be damaged by fork penetration of the sides. Damage will usually not spread because structural foam HDPE holds damage local to the impact. However it is good hygiene practice to repair the damage after washing. Repair is simple on this solid wall product. Dolav can provide training and repair materials. Please ask or see [www.uk.dolav-news.com](http://www.uk.dolav-news.com).

## WASHING DOLAV BOXES

- 1) Dolav boxes can be washed using a steam lance, industrial washing machine or high pressure water blasting.
- 2) Washing with an appropriate detergent should be part of the wash process.
- 3) Application of a disinfectant could be required, post wash.
- 4) Bagging in a light gauge liner after washing to isolate the cleaned box is recommended.
- 5) Users should seek advice from detergent suppliers such as Holchem, Ecolab and Diversey about appropriate Cleaning Agent formulae. The recommended mix will depend upon the hardness of the local water and the pH of the food content which might come into contact with the box surface. Boxes uses for meat handling generally require a mixture which is strongly alkaline.
- 6) All surfaces of the Dolav Box should be thoroughly cleaned, including the inside of the corner and centre long-side columns.
- 7) After washing boxes should be swab tested on the inside and on the rim. A routine should be established and the actions recorded.
- 8) There are several good industrial washing machine manufacturers and Dolav does not recommend any particular manufacturer. Most will have been tested to high performance standards and have independent accreditation.



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