

Containers need to be inspected regularly after 5 years old. Generally once every 2 years up to 10 years old then after that a yearly inspection should take place. Containers have to be inspected by qualified Lloyds or RINA surveyors here in Europe.

The things a surveyor is looking out for is as follows:

- 1. FLOOR :** Generally containers have wooden floors and underneath you will find what are known as CROSS MEMBERS or CROSS BEAMS fabricated in steel. An inspector will look to see that there is no corrosion or rusting on these. This is normally inspected from underneath, so a good tip would be to take a photo of the underneath when the container is loaded next time and keep it on file.
- 2. SIDE PANELS:** Side Panels should have no serious deformations, no big dents or splits or rust points.
- 3. ROOF:** Same as above
- 4. DOORS:** The doors need to be square and be able to close easily
- 5. CORNER POSTS:** The corner posts on the container give it it's structural strength. Damage or corrosion to these will result in a failed inspection.
- 6. TWIST LOCKS:** Twist locks both top and bottom are important to watch out for! If there has been any chunks taken out of the holes where the twist lock will fit in to, it could jeopardize the safety of a lift by a gantry crane. It is worth checking the twist locks thoroughly before purchasing a container as they are expensive to replace.
- 7. RETRO FITTING:** When you are changing the layout of the container from within or from the outside, do not alter any of the structural aspects of the container.
- 8. NUMBERING:** The number of the container should appear seven times: 2 times on the roof (both ends), 1 per side of the container (x 2), 1 on the front, 1 at the back and 1 inside the container.

We have a simple container inspection reminder system that we supply for FREE and can keep all of your inspection certificates on file so you can access them when ever you need. Also when you need an inspection we can make sure it gets done so you do not get caught out not being able to ship your container when you need to.

For further information please contact us on +34 971 432 600 or alternatively send an e-mail to [info@completemarinefreight.com](mailto:info@completemarinefreight.com)