



MANUFACTURING AND PRODUCTION

Packaging Design for Distribution and Transit Testing

3 day course

Classroom, online or in-house

Course overview

Damage in transit is usually blamed on the transporter and usually caused by a pack that was designed against a specification for the product rather than against the journey it makes. This course designs against the journey. Delegates work through the distribution environment: handling drops, vehicle vibration, road condition, stacking in a warehouse and the humidity that changes everything about fibreboard. Hazard identification for a specific route follows, since a container shipment and a rural distribution round damage goods differently. Cushioning is covered, including material selection, thickness and the relationship between drop height, product fragility and the protection required. Unitisation is addressed through pallet patterns, stretch wrapping and load stability. Transit testing is worked through practically: drop, compression, vibration and inclined impact, and reading what a failure tells you. Cost is treated as a trade off between packaging spend and damage claims. The course closes on damage investigation and on reducing material without increasing loss.

What you will learn

- Characterise the distribution environment a pack will face
- Identify hazards specific to a route rather than in general
- Select cushioning against drop height and product fragility
- Build stable unit loads through pallet pattern and wrapping
- Run drop, compression, vibration and impact testing
- Read a test failure back to a design decision
- Balance packaging spend against damage claims and investigate losses

Who should attend

- Packaging engineers and technologists
- Logistics and distribution managers
- Quality staff investigating transit damage
- Procurement staff buying packaging
- Manufacturers shipping fragile or stacked goods

Course outline

- 01 Designed for the product, not the journey
- 02 The distribution environment
- 03 Handling, vibration and stacking hazards
- 04 Humidity and fibreboard performance
- 05 Route specific hazard identification
- 06 Cushioning, drop height and fragility
- 07 Unitisation, pallet patterns and load stability
- 08 Transit testing, cost trade offs and damage investigation

Upcoming dates



Dates	Venue	Format	Fee per delegate
21 to 23 September 2026	Nairobi, Kenya	Classroom	USD 995
18 to 20 November 2026	Johannesburg, South Africa	Classroom	R14,950
16 to 18 December 2026	Online	Online	R6,500
3 to 5 February 2027	Harare, Zimbabwe	Classroom	USD 995

Fees and how to register

This 3 day course is **R6,500** per delegate online, **R14,950** in the classroom in South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho and Eswatini, and **USD 995** in the classroom elsewhere in Africa. In-house training is quotation on request. Book 2 or more delegates on this course and save 10%.

To register or request an in-house proposal, visit www.afrisciencegroup.com, email info@afiscience.co.za, or WhatsApp us on **+27 63 479 1136**.

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