

## HOW BIG SHOULD YOUR TOBOGGAN CRATE BE?

Teams always ask me what size their crate should be. Logistics Decisions can ship any size of crate you design, no matter what size, and we have been since 2002. We pick up at every university, warehousing all sleds, deliver them to every Tech Ex, and to the top of every snowy mountain parking lot on Race Day, then back home. Every university has different loading methods, some have docks, others load with forklifts from the ground. Every Tech Ex Venue and every Race hill is unique too: Sometimes Hotels or Race Hills have a dock or equipment, even people that will help unload our trucks but some are not allowed due to insurance, union or company policy. The only thing that we can 100% count on every single year, is us... your team and mine. Our ability to get loaded, (pardon the expression) and unloaded, efficiently and safely. In Vancouver 2013, one oversize crate took hours to unload, delaying all other teams from setting up.

### Size matters:

I know that some amazing TechEx displays absolutely need **MONTRIOUS OVERSIZE CRATES**, but how about 2 crates of more manageable size? CONSIDER 2 MEDIUM SIZE crates:

2 8x4x6 crates are the same shipping cost as one 16x8x6'H, but a hell of a lot easier to move **and you won't piss off the other teams by delaying their set up time.**

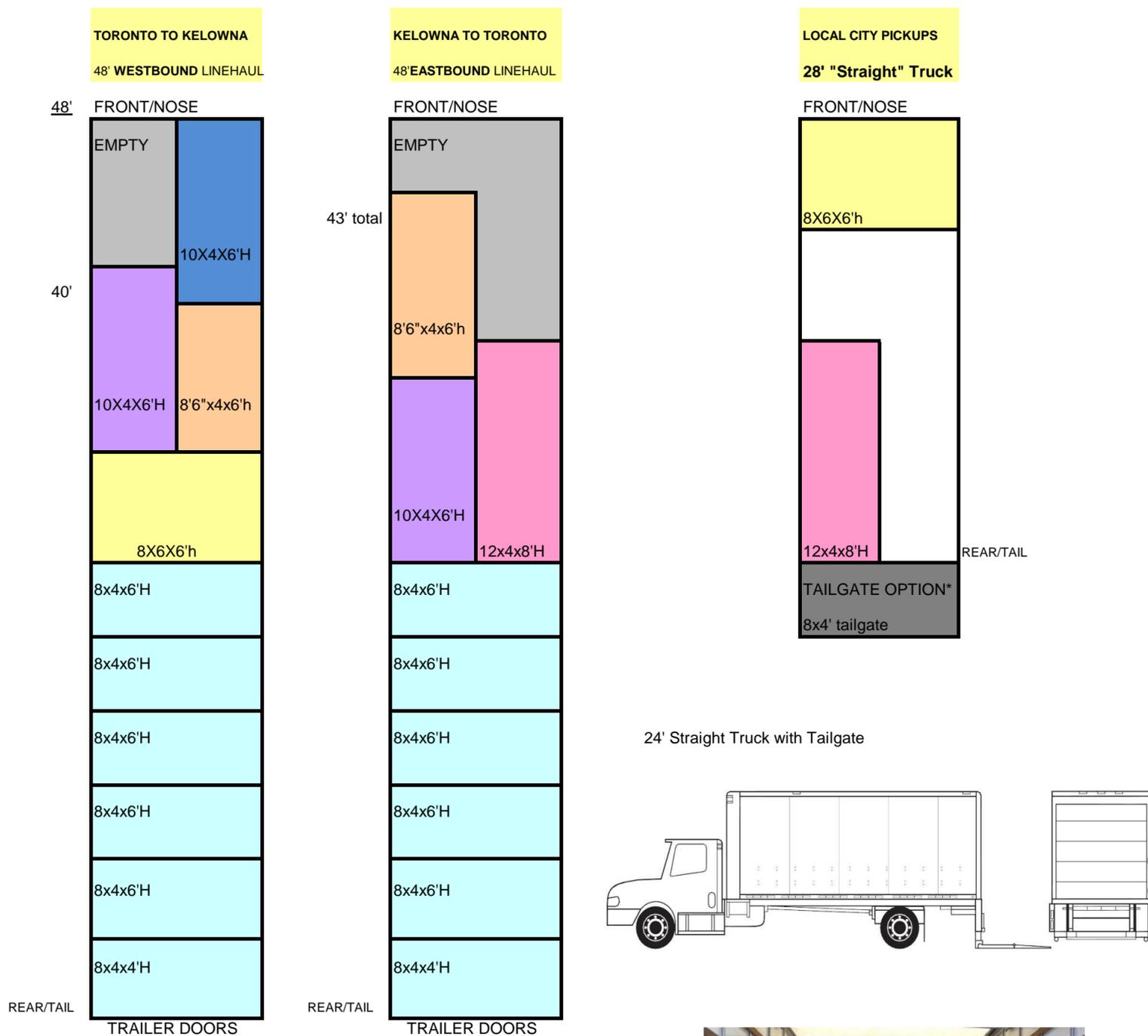
I've always recommended a crate that is no bigger 8x4x6'H. Here's why I think you should think about it. I can handle any size, but this is the voice of experience and my suggestions about dimensions.

Below is an actual "to scale" truck plan that I used for *GNCTR 2015* Kelowna., showing each crate in a trailer from the top view I hope it will help you decide what your dimensions should be.

**This is important, so read it before you decide on your dimensions.**

- 1 The green 8x4x6' crates illustrated below are easily loaded sideways by forklift or off any dock, so no delays at any University, warehouse, TechEx or Race Hill.
- 2 If every crate was 8x4x6, all 24 team crates could fit on just 2 trucks, instead of 3, which would be faster to unload, speed TechEx setup and waiting time charges if the drivers are delayed.
- 3 The Tailgate on the **Straight Truck (below)** picks up crates from the ground, but any crate larger than 8x4 won't fit on it, so longer crates need to load lengthwise off a dock or with your forklift.
- 4 WIDTH: See how 2 crates fit beside each other because they are 4'. If you want a crate 5' wide, you have to pay for 8 feet wide, since another crate won't fit beside yours. **Go Taller instead**
- 5 HEIGHT: **It's free to go taller than 6'.. Up to 8' high.** Instead of buying extra length or width, height is free, dude, unless you forget to tell me the correct height.
- 6 Can you see in the illustration below how the Pink 12x4x8' high crate wouldn't fit on the westbound truck, so we had to pay extra for a separate extra truck to go to Kelowna.
- 7 The yellow crate was only 8' long, so it loaded sideways very easily, it cost more for the 2 extra feet of trailer since it was 6' long.
- 8 The yellow crate wouldn't fit on, so it stayed was discarded in Kelowna after the race, which allowed enough room on the Eastbound Linehaul to put the pink crate on without hiring an extra truck.
- 9 If an extra truck is required to and from TechEx and the Race hill because some crates are oversize, that adds extra cost to the hosting Committee in trucking and warehousing.

### TOP VIEW OF TRAILERS WITH EXACT DIMENSIONS OF CONCRETE TOBOGGAN CRATES WITHIN



### 53' Air Ride Dry Van

