



FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION:

The Importance Of Military Containers





Every single day, men and women in the armed forces of America and its allies put themselves in harm's way. They risk their safety and their lives for the benefit of their country and others regardless of whether they serve overseas or closer to home. They have a strong sense of what is right and wrong in the world and want to do whatever they can to fight injustice and evil, volunteering to help others as they defend innocent people both at home and abroad.

Those who risk their lives for others deserve the peace of mind from knowing that their equipment will work when it is needed. Combat is an intense situation, and incredibly trying on people and equipment. In these circumstances, it is crucial to know that the equipment they depend on will work. They simply don't have time to worry about whether or not their rifle will jam, their helicopter will crash or their missile will detonate immediately after firing.



TROUBLE NOW, TROUBLE LATER

Imagine a hypothetical situation:

A squad of soldiers is under fire from enemy forces. The soldiers are unable to force the enemy out of their position, and are in danger of taking casualties. These soldiers are simply people who have volunteered to help their country and defend it from all enemies, and they are doing their best to perform their duties. They could easily be your sons, daughters, neighbors or friends.



Calling for the use of a shoulder-fired missile launcher may be the best solution to destroy the enemy and root them out of their position. The soldiers deploy a missile launcher, target the enemy, and pull the trigger. The missile then jumps from the launcher but, instead of igniting the motor, simply falls to the ground.

Now the soldiers have two problems: the enemy trying to kill them, and unexploded ordinance just a few feet in front of them that could potentially wound or kill them.

The above situation isn't entirely hypothetical. In fact, it has actually happened in combat, and you can find examples and videos with a simple search on YouTube. Similar situations have happened in the past as well, such as in 1987, when an American F-14 fighter plane fired two missiles at an Iranian F-4 aircraft. One missile fired normally, while the other simply fell off the plane into the ocean¹.

It's not just the lives of combatants that are put at risk by faulty equipment. Unexploded ordinance from World War I and World War II are still being found today, posing a risk to the safety of the general public 70 to 100 years later.

In fact, a German bomb from The Blitz was recently found in London, England. The bomb itself weighed 1000 pounds and forced an evacuation of schools and a large number of homes. The bomb was found in a part of London that is densely populated, located under a pensioners' center².

¹Evans, David. "Despite Failures, Air Force Sticks to Its Missiles." Chicago Tribune. Chicago Tribune, 04 October, 1987. Web. 25 April, 2015. <<http://articles.chicagotribune.com/>>
²Medina, Miguel. "Huge unexploded WWII bomb found in London." MSN. AFP, 24 March, 2015. Web. 25 April, 2015. <www.msn.com>



CONTAINERS

THE IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING EQUIPMENT

Having the lives of soldiers depend on the reliability of ordinance is enough to make companies protect military equipment during transport to deployment. Given the cost of the missiles themselves, companies have even more incentive to provide proper container protection to the weapons before they are used by troops.

Military weapons are not cheap in today's age of cutting-edge technology. The average cost of a single missile can be tens of thousands, to hundreds of thousands of dollars. With so many lives and dollars invested in equipment, it becomes vital that equipment and weapons are protected while in storage or during transport.



Containers that store missiles and other weapons for military use need to withstand difficult environments and rough handling. No one knows what a piece of hardware might experience when a deployment could come at any time, in any part of the world. Environments can be harsh, whether it is a hot, humid jungle, a dry, dusty desert or freezing cold arctic conditions. Regardless of the environment, the people who depend on the weapons and equipment need to know that it has been properly protected and will work as needed, when needed, every time.

Environmental seals need to be a part of the design of containers. Extensive testing needs to be done in order to be sure that environmental conditions – whatever they may be – will not affect the contents. Temperature, water, even drop-tests need to be conducted to ensure that all equipment in the containers is protected. Even fire retardant qualities may need to be considered and addressed.

Missiles are not the only military equipment that needs protection from the rough conditions of military deployment. Weapons including rifles and side arms, and technology such as radio and communication equipment, computers, and much more are just as much a part of military action as missiles and bombs. All of this needs to be protected to prevent damage or malfunctions.



CONTAINERS

THE IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING EQUIPMENT (CONT.)

Other considerations also come into play. Portability, weight, and ease of deployment need to be considered. What good is a container with a cargo of rifles, if it can't be opened quickly and the rifles issued to personnel who need it right away? For a container to be effective, it not only has to withstand everyday use, but it has to allow easy access to its contents.

Lightweight, high-strength materials can be used in today's military to help in the protection of the equipment stored inside. Using these lightweight materials allows easy portability during operations. Soldiers are able to carry equipment when less weight is added by the packaging material, while a standardized size and shape makes the containers easy to store or ship. Whether it is in the back of a truck, or in a larger sea container, equipment will stack in a predictable way to help inventory and safe travel of the contents.





Precision Metal Industries

HOW WE CAN HELP

PMI is a fabricator of custom sheet metal products and has gained over 30 years of experience producing various containers. The company is located in Pompano Beach, Florida and prides itself on the fabrication of high-quality products and excellent customer service. Containers fabricated by PMI are used in a large variety of applications, in a number of different industries, from aviation and electronics to medical and military.

Cutting-edge fabrication methods are used by PMI to create containers that meet exacting and strict specifications for all of its clients. The company has fabrication equipment that is certified for government use, and the knowledge of these standards and certifications means that PMI can build protective packaging for important pieces of cargo. Regardless of whether it is missiles or medical equipment, it will arrive safely after storage and shipping.



Some of PMI's fabrication methods include:

- Robotic Press Brake Forming
- Turret Press Fabrication
- Automated Robotic Welding
- Automated Laser cutting
- Tooling and Finishing Services



Precision Metal Industries

HOW WE CAN HELP (CONT.)

With zero room for failures in wartime environments, PMI produces missile containers which guarantee the equipment contained within will not fail due to damage sustained during shipping. Durable, reliable containers that are cost-effective are a specialty of PMI. The company's engineers and designers use both AutoCAD and SolidWorks for the design of all missile containers, and can meet and exceed a number of standards including:

- ITAR
- ISO 9001:2008 TUV registration #05-1095
- SAM: CCR & ORCA Registered (CAGE: 0KHJ5)
- JCO
- All other military and civil specifications which apply to containers



PMI is able to assist with the storage and transport requirements of containers used in military service. Their long history and team of experts enables them to assist anyone who needs to transport equipment meant for the battlefield.

When the lives of troops and civilians are on the line and everyone is depending on undamaged equipment to help them through enemy engagements, PMI is the company to turn to. Their expertise and high standards make them ideal for the fabrication of missile containers that will protect the equipment contained inside, as well as the lives who depend on the equipment.