

Interferometer Shipping Instructions

Minimize damage by packaging and shipping correctly

Interferometers are delicate optical instruments. Shipping damage and the additional repair expense will be avoided if simple procedures are followed. This service note outlines the best approach to minimize the chance of damage.

Shipping To ÄPRE

Box : Use a wooden crate. Wrap the interferometer in a plastic bag. Completely surround the it with foam to prevent shifting inside the crate. Use foam-lined boards to secure the interferometer and pack all accessories in the crate.

Phase Shifter: It is OK to leave the Phase Shifter¹ connected IF it is not touching anything rigid (it can be in contact foam). Prevent shifting assure the interferometer body absorbs any shocks and not the Phase Shifter.

Accessories and Computer: Package additional components in individual boxes, so they are secure inside the crate.

Pallet: Always ship the interferometer and associated parts on a pallet. The pallet forces the carrier to use a forklift to move the system and prevents tossing or dropping the box (yes they may literally throw the box that is not on a pallet).

If shipping multiple boxes, use straps and plastic wrap to tie all the packages together and strap them to the pallet.

Air Suspension Freight Carrier: If possible specify the trucking carrier to be equipped with an Air Suspension (called Air Ride in the USA). A leaf spring suspension truck might damage the interferometer due to the excessive vibrations the system will experience.

Return Shipment

ÄPRE will follow these same procedures on return shipment, therefore budget for the similar shipping costs upon return . If appropriate packaging material has been delivered with the system ÄPRE will use it for the return shipment, saving you money.



¹ The phase shifter is sometimes called a PMR (phase modulator receptacle)