

Important Considerations before Purchasing a Seal or Shelter

Which dock seal or shelter is best suited for your loading dock? Dock applications, site criteria and facility operations vary, so there is no simple answer. Many configurations are available, from basic types of compression dock seals, standard dock shelters, and inflatable seals to hybrid dock seal / shelter / inflatable designs.

The questions in this document will help you select the correct unit for your operation. Bear in mind that you may have different requirements for each opening, making it necessary to purchase a different dock seal or shelter for each one.

Opening Dimensions: What is the door size of the opening?

The size of your opening(s) is a key factor in model selection. Find your door dimensions below to determine where to start. (Please note these are general guidelines only.)

Door Size		Product		Seal / Shelter Type			
Width (ft)	Height (ft)	Model	Name	Compression	Inflatable	Retractable	Rigid
8	8	BG100	Fixed Pad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
8	10	BG200	Head Curtain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
		BG300	Adjustable Pad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
		BG350	Adjustable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
10	10	BG400	Stationary				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		BG450	Inflatable		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
		BG500	Retractable			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
		BG550	Air Frame		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
		BG600	Foam Frame	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
		BG625	Foam Frame with Hooks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
		BG670	Foam Frame & Rain Shroud	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
		BG675	Foam Frame with Hooks & Rain Shroud	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
		BG700	L-Pad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

Climate Control Needs: Does your facility require strict climate control?

If you handle frozen foods, pharmaceuticals, or other products that require higher levels of temperature control and cleanliness, your best choice is a compression seal or inflatable shelter.

Recommended models:

- BG100 Fixed Dock Seal
- BG200 Curtain Dock Seal
- BG300 Adjustable Dock Seal
- BG350 Adjustable Inflatable Shelter

Accessing the Trailer Interior: Is full access required to the interior of parked trailers?

If the answer is yes, your best option is a rigid truck shelter or retractable shelter.

Recommended models:

- BG400 Stationery Dock Shelter
- BG450 Stationery Inflatable Shelter
- BG500 Retractable Dock Shelter
- BG550 Air Frame Inflatable Shelter
- BG600 Foam Frame Shelter Series (BG625, BG670, BG675)
- BG700 Full Access Dock Seal

Variety of Trailers: Does your facility encounter a wide range of trailer traffic?

Inflatable seals can expand to accommodate variances in trailer sizes.

Recommended models:

- BG450 Stationery Inflatable Shelter
- BG550 Air Frame Inflatable Shelter

Palletized Load Handling: Does your operation handle palletized loads?

Palletized loads, when conveyed by industrial trucks, can potentially damage a seal or shelter. Choose a product that does not have overlapping foam inside the trailer.

Recommended models:

- BG400 Stationery Dock Shelter
- BG500 Retractable Dock Shelter
- BG550 Air Frame Inflatable Shelter
- BG600 Foam Frame Shelter
- BG700 Full Access Dock Seal

Hinge Gap Protection: Do you serve trailers with hinged rear doors?

Any potential gaps can be effectively sealed by a Blue Giant compression seal or inflatable seal.

Recommended models:

- BG100 Fixed Dock Seal
- BG200 Curtain Dock Seal
- BG300 Adjustable Dock Seal
- BG350 Adjustable Inflatable Shelter

Building Construction: Is your building made of a lighter-gauge material that could be compromised by impact damage?

Blue Giant retractable shelters have fully impactable side frames, allowing them to withstand collisions from misaligned trucks without incurring costly building damage or downtime.

Recommended models:

- BG500 Retractable Dock Shelter