

Every year, millions of containers enter our country. To prevent cargo from spoiling due to the cause of vermin, containers are being fumigated in the country of origin with pesticides and phosphor water dioxide and methyl bromide. These gasses however, can cause damage to humans. The gasses are meant for short term activity in order to unload the cargo safely in the country of destination. Unfortunately this is not always the case. Especially shipments from continents overseas such as Asia, Africa and South-America are marked as suspicious. Containers are being fumigated unnecessarily, are not marked correct and/or do not contain the proper documents for transportation. All these matters have caused severe health problems among businesses in our profession.

Rotra therefore needs to take responsibility and measure all incoming containers from overseas on high fumigation concentrations to prevent harmful situations. Therefore we have set up a procedure to prevent our employees of encountering health damage. This procedure is applicable on all containers that are scheduled to be opened in a Rotra Warehouse and concerns all employees that are involved in any handling concerning these containers (administration, loading, unloading etc.); these instructions describe how to act when a container might possibly be fumigated.

The containers are classified in three possible categories by Rotra:

**Category A:** these containers are fumigated for sure and we are aware of the type of gas that has been used. These containers will always be checked.

**Category B:** Uncertain if this container is fumigated and if this container can be opened safely without any risks for the health of our employees. These containers will always be checked. It can occur that this supplier states that no gas is used. However gas measurements have not verified this.

**Category C:** 100% certainly not fumigated. However a random check will still be applicable.

*Summary of measurements containers by category*

A categorie	B categorie		Categorie C	
100% measurements at all time	The first 2 containers of each supplier are always measured	Followed by 10% from these suppliers by random check	The first 2 containers of each supplier are always measured	Followed by 5% from these suppliers by random check

The measurements will be done by a certified organisation. For measurements in Rotterdam or at our Warehouse in Doesburg Rotra will charge €169,-/measurement. At any other location within the Netherlands €195,- will be charged. In case a (too high) concentration is detected in a container €35,-/per day will be charged for waiting-time.

In case you are certain that your containers are never fumigated, we would like to receive a confirmation from your side. This should be sent to us by the shipper in writing. In this case we will arrange that these containers will only be measured randomly. However, we want to emphasize that the responsibility of providing us the correct information is of the utmost importance. Any risks as a cause of incorrect information provided to us is at your responsibility. In case we do not receive an explanation for this inconvenience/risk we will be forced to check all containers from that point on under conditions as mentioned above.