



USE OF PLASTIC PALLETS WITHIN COLD STORES

Following a member enquiry, BFFF has investigated the suitability of the use of plastic pallets within a cold store environment.

Our investigations led us to enquire with one of the leading plastic pallet manufacturers in the UK, Kaysersberg pallets, a part of D. S. Smith Plastics. They have stated that their current pallets in use in the UK are made from high-density polyethylene and their product has been tested and are suitable for use at temperatures down to **-20°C only**.

Therefore, as the extreme temperatures experienced within a cold store environment often exceeds -20°C, these pallets have not been designed and are not suitable for cold storage use.

It is also important to highlight that as well as the pallets themselves not being suitable to withstand the cold; there are operational health and safety issues surrounding their use within a frozen food supply chain. Any company contemplating their use should fully investigate these operational hazards, which include amongst others, the issues surrounding lack of grip between the plastic pallet and the metal racking bars and forklift tines.

BFFF

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