

# Recommendations for Laser Transport

- For large technical equipment a rigging company is preferred for transport rather than a general moving company. At McGill Summerside transport has had a lot of good reviews and are therefore the suggested recommendation.
- If a piece of laser equipment contains a lot of optical components, it will be particularly sensitive to shocks and vibrations. Make sure that it is well padded for transport and if possible reuse the original packaging it came in when transporting.
- Be prepared to do a calibration, alignment, or both when a laser is reinstalled. Follow pre-established SOPs for alignments, and if possible contact the manufacturer or manufacturer's suggested service provider for calibrations.
- Many lasers come with key controlled activation. If a laser does so, do make sure you collect the key before transporting and put it somewhere safe. This is a perfect scenario for keys to get lost or bent in a box.
- If a laser has any engineering control measures that need to be disassembled and reinstalled at the new site (ex: protective housing, safety interlocks, emergency stops, laser status indicator sign, etc) then the LSO will need to do a site visit when the work is finished to confirm that the control measures are functional and safe to resume use.
- For lasers containing gas or liquid activation mediums (ex: Helium-Neon, CO<sup>2</sup>, Nitrogen, liquid dye), the contents must be considered as hazardous chemicals and transported with those considerations. Either the medium must be drained and disposed of as hazardous waste, or the Chemical Safety Officer must be contacted for specific conditions relating to that chemical.
- If a laser holds a charge, for example certain pulsed lasers, make sure that the laser has been discharged and cooled down properly before transport. Once unplugged from a power source it should be neutralized as a hazard from then on.
- If transporting to another country, be aware of that country's laws concerning laser regulation. For example, in Sweden one must acquire a permit from the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority before use, possession, acquisition, trade, lease, or transfer of laser equipment Class 3R and above.