

Important Things to Consider 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.

What is the door size for 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		Model		Seal / Shelter Type			
Width (ft)	Height (ft)	Canada	U.S.	compression	inflatable	retractable	rigid
8	8	BG100	BGDSF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
8	10	BG200	BGDSC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
		BG300	BGDSA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
		BG350	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
10	10	BG400	BGDSHS				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		BG450	N/A		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
		BG500	BGDSHR			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
		BG550	N/A		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
		BG600	BGDSHF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
		BG700	BGDSFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

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 / BGDSF fixed dock seal
- BG200 / BGDSC curtain dock seal
- BG300 / BGDSA adjustable dock seal
- BG350 (Canada only) adjustable inflatable shelter

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 / BGDSHS stationery dock shelter



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- BG450 (Canada only) stationery inflatable shelter
- BG500 / BGDSHR retractable dock shelter
- BG550 (Canada only) air frame inflatable shelter
- BG600 / BGDSHF foam frame shelter
- BG700 / BGDSFA full access dock seal

Does your facility encounter a wide range of trailer traffic?

Inflatable seals can expand to accommodate variances in trailer sizes.

Recommended models:

- BG450 (Canada only) stationery inflatable shelter
- BG550 (Canada only) air frame inflatable shelter

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 / BGDSHS stationery dock shelter
- BG500 / BGDSHR retractable dock shelter
- BG550 (Canada only) air frame inflatable shelter
- BG600 / BGDSHF foam frame shelter
- BG700 / BGDSFA full access dock seal

If you are serving hinged-door trailers, can outside air penetrate the exposed hinge gap?

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

Recommended models:

- BG100 / BGDSF fixed dock seal
- BG200 / BGDSC curtain dock seal
- BG300 / BGDSA adjustable dock seal
- BG350 (Canada only) adjustable inflatable shelter

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 / BGDSHR retractable dock shelter