USING STRAPPING CORRECTLY

Strapping is a viable option for parcels but it's not without risk. If strapping is going to be used as a sealing method, it's crucial to use it correctly to prevent as many problems as possible during shipping. The following provides useful recommendations for using strapping.

THREE GOLDEN RULES

1

STRAPPING SHOULD BE TIGHT ENOUGH

If strapping bands are too loose (1+ cm of space between band and parcel), the parcel will be classified as bulky goods as per the GT&C of DPDHL because its suitability for automatic processing can no longer be guaranteed. Loose strapping can get caught in sorting equipment and lead to parcels being torn open, which is why the item must be processed manually.

2

STRAPPING SHOULD BE WIDE ENOUGH

If the quality of the outer packaging is too low, strapping may cut deeply into the corrugated cardboard walls of the package. This effect is worse when the strapping is too narrow. If the cardboard tears open as a result, the packaged goods are no longer protected and thus no longer transportable.
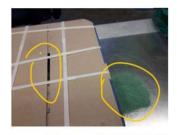
3

STRAPPING SHOULD FULLY SEAL THE PARCEL

Sometimes strapping bands do not seal the parcel completely. Because a partially opened package puts its contents at risk, such parcels are deemed improperly sealed by the GT&C of DPDHL.

PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR USING STRAPPING

- Strapping can be useful starting at parcel weight of 20 kg
- Choose strapping that is at least 12-15 mm **wide** to prevent it from cutting into the cardboard
- Make sure that the **cardboard** is of **sufficient quality** to prevent deformation of the box
- The **tension** of the strapping must be appropriate for the external packaging. Strapping that is too loose stands out from the package; strapping that is too tight can cut into the cardboard and deform the parcel (see right)
- Strapping should be applied **first lengthwise and then crosswise**
- Use at least **two lengthwise straps** and **two crosswise straps** and, if necessary, edge protectors