

## Sealing Methods:

Various sealing methods can effectively confine Vikane® fumigant in trailers, listed below in order of decreasing general confinement capabilities (based on research by the University of Florida and Douglas Products):

1. Tarp entire trailer by driving the trailer on top of the tarp and then wrap it (see image A).
2. Tarp entire trailer and seal to the ground with sand and/or water snakes.
3. Tape openings and seal trailer doors using polyethylene sheeting and tape.
4. Tape gaps on trailer doors and other openings (see image B).

## Tips on Sealing

*[based on research by the University of Florida and Douglas Products]:*

1. Trailers with wood flooring generally have waterproofing material applied to the underside, which limits fumigant penetration through the flooring.
2. A truck trailer connected to a cab, compared to one separate from the cab, can have extensive fumigant loss into the cab if the trailer is taped and sealed after it is loaded (e.g., sealed from the cab).
3. Taping all trailer door seams may be as effective as using polyethylene and tape for confining Vikane (see image B).
4. Confinement is more variable using the tape-and-seal procedures than tarping, even when repeatedly fumigating the same trailer. The exception would be for trailers that have been modified to be permanently sealed for fumigation.

## Security:

1. The fumigator should use their padlock (not one provided by the customer) to secure the trailer from unauthorized entry during fumigation.
2. In addition to the label requirement to post all trailer doors with warning signs during the fumigation, many states require warning signs (which are visible at ground level) be placed on all sides of a fumigated structure.

3. Most tarped trailers and containers will require only a fraction of an ounce of chloropicrin to be applied per label-required rates. If the trailer or container is taped and sealed, chloropicrin is not required. (See manual for Vikane: "Section 6. Release of Warning Agent" for additional information.)



A. Example of tarping an entire trailer by driving it on top of the tarp and then wrapping it.



B. Example of trailer using tape to seal gaps on doors and other openings.

# Procedures for Application of Vikane® Fumigant in Trailers, Cargo Containers and Storage Pods

## Fumigant Introduction:

1. Calculate the required dose (total pounds to introduce) and introduction rate (pounds/minute) using the Fumiguide™ calculator.
2. Fan use and placement:
  - a. A single fan should be sufficient for introduction. Use a fan of appropriate capacity based on the pounds of Vikane® fumigant introduced per minute.
  - b. Place the fan so the fumigant is dispersed into an open area of the trailer.
  - c. Fans do not need to be operated throughout the fumigant exposure period. The fan can be operated during introduction and for about an additional 10 minutes following introduction, then turned off remotely by unplugging the fan.
3. Introduction hose:
  - a. Based on average temperature and humidity conditions, it is recommended to introduce the fumigant through at least 100 feet of ½-inch ID hose.
  - b. In conditions of high temperature and humidity, an introduction hose longer than 100 feet may be necessary to achieve the label-required introduction rate.
4. It is recommended to use plastic sheeting or tarps when needed to protect trailer contents from contact with liquid fumigant during introduction.
5. Measure the pounds of Vikane introduced using equipment, such as weighing scales, to obtain the required dose.

## Monitoring:

1. Monitoring is the only way to confirm that sufficient dosage was accumulated to control the target pest(s).
2. When monitoring, measure fumigant concentrations remotely, using a Fumiscope, RDA Fumiscope,

SF ReportIR or similar device, after fumigant introduction and at appropriate time intervals to determine the actual half-loss time (HLT).

3. Use the Fumiguide to calculate the actual HLT and dosage accumulation. If the HLT is less than planned, use the Fumiguide to determine the amount of fumigant to add or time to extend the exposure to obtain the required dosage.



Leak testing after introduction on tape-and-seal applications can identify areas where additional sealing is needed and can improve fumigant confinement.

## Aeration:

1. Once the required dosage has been obtained, aeration can be initiated.
2. Repositioning the fan inside the trailer and/or using an additional fan can enhance initial aeration.

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