



MAERSK SHIPPING LINES

The container ships Arnold Mærsk and Mette Mærsk are usually at sea for three weeks at a time. With a Jimco's MAC 500 air cleaner in the cooling compartments, the crews avoid having to discard large quantities of spoiled food.

The 100,000-ton container vessel Mette Maersk is normally on long-haul voyages for three weeks. The crew consists of 14 permanent members as well as a varying number of students and others, so often the ship has at least 20 people on board at a time. This requires well-stocked cold rooms where large amounts of food perishes during these long sea voyages.

"We especially have had problems with fruit and vegetables. Even if you buy as fresh goods as possible, they cannot last more than two weeks under normal conditions, explains Harald Aastrup, the ship's chief engineer. Throughout his many years at Mærsk, he has seen on many long journeys that large amounts of spoiled food had to be discarded. "It's incredibly frustrating to throw away lots of rotten fruits and vegetables while others are starving. In addition, it is a waste of money and the crew typically has to live with a limited selection of fruits and vegetables during the last week of the sailing, he says.

Jimco's MAC 500 extends shelf life

Some time ago, the chief engineer was made aware of the Jimco's air purifier MAC500, which eliminates viruses, bacteria, fungi and gases in the air using ultraviolet light.

I learned that, among other things, big kitchens, green groups and supermarkets use the MAC500 to extend the durability of organic foods in particular. This is possible because it removes ethylene gas which then delays the maturation process of the fruit and vegetable, "says the chief engineer. Subsequently, the MAC 500 was initially set in the cooler of two container vessels Mette Mærsk and Arnold Maersk, and according to Harald Aastrup, the effect was remarkable.

*Maersk Line is the global container division and the largest operating unit of the A.P. Moller – Maersk Group, a Danish business conglomerate. It is the world's largest container **shipping company** having customers through 374 offices in 116 countries.*

With an air purifier constantly running in each cooling room, the concentration of ethylene gas is reduced to prolong the shelf life of fruit and vegetables by about one week.

the concentration of ethylene gas is reduced to prolong the shelf life of fruit and vegetables by about one week. This reduces the amount of spoiled goods to an absolute minimum, according to a satisfied engineer officer, saying that after successful tests, the shipping company is now planning to purchase air cleaners for its other ships.

Return on our investment

The air purifiers used on the Mærsk ships are not much bigger than a shoe box but the various air purification systems developed by Jimco are used by companies all over the world.

Jimco's compact air purifiers are sold in Denmark by AIR-TECH. Here, Director Marlene Olsen tells us that the product has many applications.

The MAC500 is also used to remove odor molecules, create a better indoor climate and prevent airborne infection. Thus, it is used inter alia in smoking rooms, large kitchens and linen depots as well as in hospitals and nursing homes. In addition, the air purifier is popular with asthma-COPD and allergy-affected, where it eliminates inter alia mold and pollen, she says.

At Mette Mærsk, Harald Aastrup comments that the air cleaner has already show a return on investment many times over. "After only two long journeys, we had achieved a savings greater than the purchase price. In addition, we save trouble and frustrations, we can rationalize our food purchases, and the bacterial concentration in the cold room has been greatly reduced. **So all in all, the air purifier is a very good investment, he comments.**

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