



INDUSTRY REPORT

# Government & Military

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## Innovations in Walk-In Cold Storage for Government & Military Applications

From field kitchens to medical facilities, cold storage plays a crucial role in government and military operations throughout the United States. Innovations in these areas are currently being driven by a need for greater efficiency, security, and adaptability to diverse operational requirements.

Whether housing laboratory specimens for a research project, food, and medical supplies to support disaster relief efforts, or hazardous materials for a field operation, cold storage units are essential for safeguarding product integrity and ensuring compliance with stringent regulatory requirements.

Specifically tailored to government and military applications, this industry report explores the latest trends and advancements in walk-in cold storage solutions. By making a more informed procurement decision, government and military entities can enhance their logistical capabilities, improve operational readiness, and support mission-critical objectives in a highly dynamic, ever-changing environment.





## GSA Schedule Certified to Streamline Government Support

Through its Multiple Award Schedule (MAS) contract with the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), Polar King International is certified through September 2036 to provide a variety of quality walk-in refrigerated and freezer units at the best rates to U.S. government agencies.

Created to streamline the procurement process, the MAS program connects government buyers with leading industry suppliers like Polar King through an exclusive online marketplace that offers convenient access to millions of products and services at fixed, competitive prices. Landing an MAS contract with the GSA is no small feat—requiring companies to meet a set of stringent criteria.

With nearly four decades of experience, Polar King has earned the trust of all branches of the U.S. Military and various government agencies by consistently delivering superior products and exceptional customer service. Whether it's coordinating unit deliveries or sourcing replacement parts years down the line, Polar King prioritizes its GSA customers—expediting responses within just 24 hours.





## Advantages of Fiberglass Exteriors Over Traditional Panel Box Units

Walk-in cold storage units constructed with fiberglass exteriors offer numerous advantages over their traditional panel box counterparts. Featuring superior insulation properties, fiberglass acts as a formidable heat shield that prevents heat conductivity and ensures consistent temperature control despite shifting weather conditions—thereby preserving the quality of stored items.

Fiberglass is also easy to clean with extraordinary durability and remarkable corrosion resistance, making it an ideal construction choice for challenging conditions and damp environments. Perhaps most importantly, the inherent resiliency of fiberglass significantly reduces the overall need for labor and maintenance, which ultimately frees up valuable time and resources for other vital tasks.

Many of Polar King’s walk-in units have even been deployed to the Middle East to store food, medical supplies, and hazardous materials. While Polar King will not ship its units overseas, it does work in tandem with the military to help transport the units to coastal ports for exportation.

### THE FIBERGLASS ADVANTAGE

#### KEY BENEFITS

- Reduced On-Site Labor
- Attractive Exterior Finishes
- Sanitary, NSF-Certified Interiors
- 12-Year Structural Warranty
- Maximizes Interior Workspace



A testament to the durability of its units, Polar King was contracted by the U.S. federal government to supply a fiberglass walk-in freezer for one of its military testing facilities in California’s infamous Death Valley—known for the hottest temperatures in the world. Polar King has also provided unusually large walk-in cold storage units for several federal prisons in heat-prone Texas and Oklahoma.



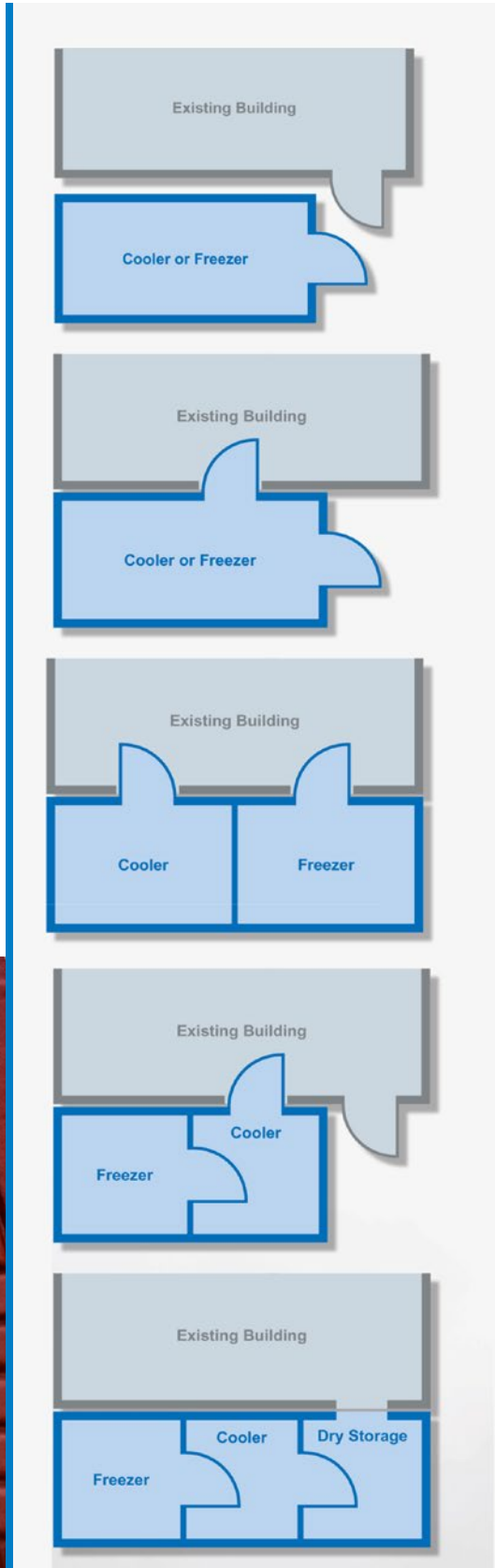
## A Fully Customizable & Scalable Design Redefines the Walk-In Unit

When designing the exterior and interior of your walk-in unit, prioritizing safety does not require sacrificing style. Modern manufacturing techniques have revolutionized the process, enabling the seamless integration of practically any design feature. This eliminates the need for third-party involvement, mitigating risks to structural integrity and ensuring a cohesive, reliable product.



These customizable options extend far beyond mere aesthetics, offering a variety of design features that enhance branding and adaptability while meeting functional requirements. This flexibility ensures the units will seamlessly integrate into any environment—from camouflaged finishes for a military base to showcasing bold emblems like the Great Seal of the United States at government facilities.

The interior of a Polar King walk-in unit is flexible enough to accommodate unique operational needs, such as multi-room configurations, additional shelving systems, and extra-large capacity. This scalability allows government and military entities to adapt their storage capabilities to changing demands.





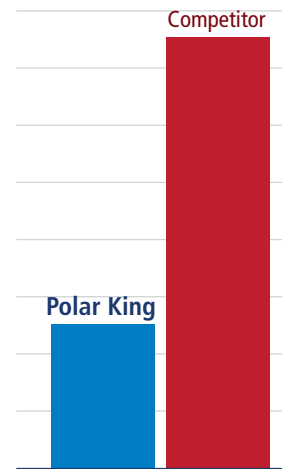
### Energy Efficiency Continues to be Top of Mind

A seamless fiberglass construction minimizes energy loss by acting as a barrier against moisture penetration. Leading providers like Polar King also incorporate various energy-saving features such as efficient fan motors, advanced evaporators, and specialized defrost systems in their walk-in units.

For example, a prominent federal agency uses Polar King cold storage units to maintain optimal temperature and humidity levels for up to 500,000 seedlings until they are ready to be planted.

By working in synergy, these features reduce energy consumption, lower operating costs, and enhance overall sustainability—all of which are often mandated in government and military operations. The significant energy savings can also align with broader sustainability initiatives, demonstrating a commitment to environmental stewardship and responsible resource management.

Annual Energy Consumption Comparison



### Integration of Advanced Technology into Cold Storage Solutions

Especially within government and military operations, there is a growing emphasis on the integration of enhanced security features into cold storage solutions. With the need to protect highly sensitive and classified materials, walk-in units can be outfitted with state-of-the-art security features—from biometric access controls and surveillance cameras to intrusion detection systems. These safeguards ensure that only authorized personnel can access stored items, reducing the risk of theft or tampering.

Data-driven analytics are also transforming the management of cold-storage solutions, providing strategic insights into storage utilization, temperature patterns, and inventory turnover rates. This enables more proactive maintenance and resource allocation. Predictive analytics can also forecast future storage needs based on historical data, which allows potential challenges to be addressed before they arise.



## Hurricane Zone Approval to Withstand Extreme Conditions

In regions prone to severe weather events, such as hurricane zones and coastal areas, walk-in cold storage units must meet explicit product safety requirements under even the harshest conditions. Polar King units are hurricane-zone approved, which demonstrates they have undergone rigorous testing for durability and structural integrity. This approval is especially critical for government facilities and military bases that are located in hurricane-prone regions.

As the highest-velocity hurricane zone across the United States, Florida's notorious Miami-Dade County is nationally recognized for its rigorous hurricane certification standards—often referred to as the Miami-Dade certification. In addition to having hurricane zone approval, Polar King units are Miami-Dade certified and ready to withstand the strongest hurricanes.

## American-made, Battle-Tested Cold Storage

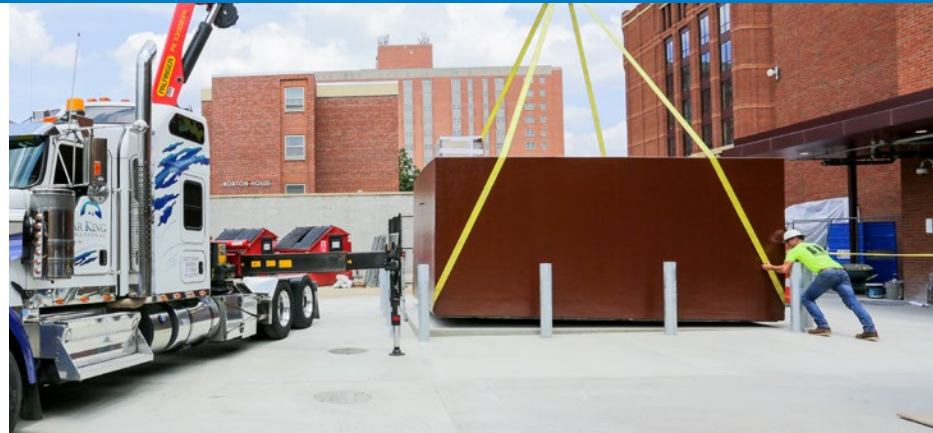
Made in America and rigorously tested, Polar King's trusted line of walk-in refrigerated and freezer units are delivered preassembled and ready to operate with a simple electrical connection. The modular design can be easily reconfigured to adjust to evolving requirements, whether it's the deployment of temporary field operations or the expansion of existing storage capacity.

Polar King also offers explosion-proof cold storage units with no internal electrical components to prevent ignition in hazardous environments. These units comply with OSHA and NFPA standards, as well as Chapter 5 of the National Electric Code, to ensure the safety of volatile materials.



## Want to Explore Cold Storage Options?

Contact Patrick Smith, regional sales manager, at (260) 428-2530 or [patrick.smith@polarking.com](mailto:patrick.smith@polarking.com). A veteran of Polar King for more than a decade, he has worked extensively with the government sector.



### ABOUT POLAR KING INTERNATIONAL

The introduction of the Polar King outdoor walk-in freezer into the food service industry was the result of three generations of walk-in refrigeration technology and experience. Polar King's fiberglass, one-piece walk-in cooler is the natural evolution of the walk-in cold storage industry from the conventional metal panel constructed unit. In early 1982, Polar King began operations by constructing and shipping walk-ins from a modest 12,000 sq. ft. facility in New Haven, Indiana. As demand grew for outdoor fiberglass commercial walk-in coolers and commercial walk-in freezers, production was moved to a 251,200 sq. ft. facility located in Fort Wayne, Indiana. For 40 years, Polar King has provided thousands of walk-ins to single-unit operators, chain restaurants, schools, health care facilities, government agencies, and many other industries requiring dependable outdoor walk-in refrigeration.

For more information, visit [polarleasing.com](http://polarleasing.com) or contact Polar King, 4424 New Haven Ave, Fort Wayne, IN 46803 USA at 877-224-8674.

