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# Hybrid Cooperation for Folding Containers in Fire Stations

Are foldable containers effective in repositioning empty containers?

Foldable containers are considered an effective solution to deal with the endemic imbalance in the repositioning of empty containers. Several foldable containers were commercialized without clear breakthrough in the market and most current researches are still limited to small pilot projects.

Who makes foldable containers?

HCI is not the only company that produces foldable containers. Another example is Staxxon, an American manufacturer of accordion-like foldable containers. They are ISO approved and will be commercially available in 2023. They can be folded and unfolded by two people or with Material Handling Equipment (MHE).

Why are foldable containers so controversial?

One main reason for this controversy is the high purchase cost of the foldable container. The current purchase cost of the developed foldable container is currently set to US\$20,000 but will be lowered to US\$10,000 in case of mass production, which is still significantly higher than the purchase price of US\$5,000 of a standard 40-foot container.

Which containers are foldable or collapsible?

As mentioned above, the foldable or collapsible containers that have been actually commercialized to date are SIO, Fallpac and HCI. Among them, only HCI is fully foldable whereas SIO is collapsible and Fallpac combines collapsible and foldable features.

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