## SmartPacker T3 | 2025-10-08

## 0 Overview

SmartPacker is an app runs on Windows PC, for assisting shippers plan cargo loading in container, to increase space utilization and save calculation time.

The software mostly serves enterprise clients by providing customization on loading and scheduling rules. This standard edition removed the customized features to provide a simplified interface with the essential function: answer the question that for a given container space, what and how a cargo-quantity combination can be loaded.

This question may raise when a **procurement specialist fine tune** an order to fit the cargo into a Full Container Load (FCL), or a logistics contractor find how many containers are needed in making a quote, or a manufacturing company plan shipment to fulfill orders on ongoing base by fill rate target.

The software requires Windows 64bit.

The default size of the software interface is 1366x768 to fit in small laptop screen but you can enlarge it. The software does not require internet access.

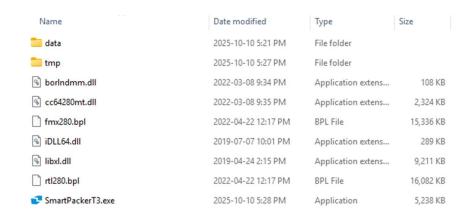
It did not check update automatically either, you may visit <a href="www.zhihuo.net/t3">www.zhihuo.net/t3</a> to check update.

This download version is for 180-day trial on a Windows PC.

The software is provided by Zhihuo, a software company has offices in Beijing and Winnipeg. For any questions and comments, please email: <a href="mailto:zhzx@zhihuo.com">zhzx@zhihuo.com</a>

## 1 The software package

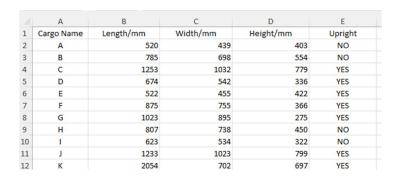
The downloaded package is in zip format, after unzipped, you see the following files in the folder:



- The file with the blue logo is the executable, double click it to run the software (no installation
- The .dll, bpl files are supporting libraries for the software to run.
- In the data subfolder has an excel file for example data of container and cargo dimensions.
- When you no longer want it, just delete the folder, no un-installation needed.

Open the data.xlsx file,

The "Cargo" sheet is for cargo, you would want to change the dimensions to that of your cargo.



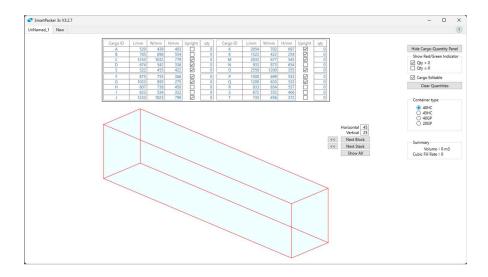
The "Container" sheet is for the internal loading space of container, nevertheless, you can also use it to compute a loading space of truck with length, width and height limit, or a carton space.

Α	В	С	D
ID	Internal Length/mm	Internal Width/mm	Internal Height/mm
40HC	11850	2320	2670
45HC	13350	2320	2670
40GP	11850	2320	2320
20GP	5660	2320	2320
	40HC 45HC 40GP	40HC 11850   45HC 13350   40GP 11850	40HC     11850     2320       45HC     13350     2320       40GP     11850     2320

The app will import these data sheet when start, and will save changes you made in the user interface.

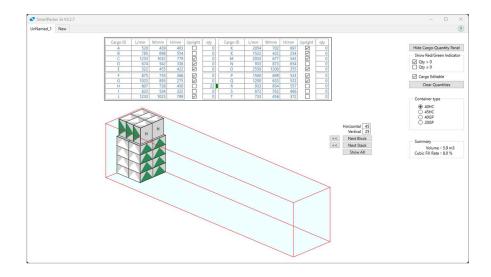
2 Explore what cargo-quantity combination to load

You see the following user interface when the app starts



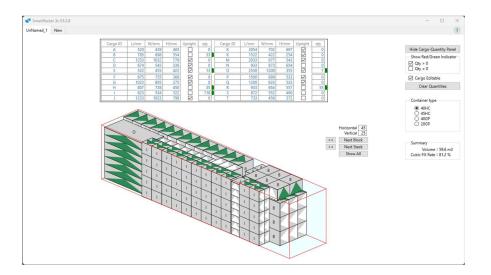
- A panel to input cargo dimensions and quantity, let us call it the cargo-quantity panel
- An illustration of the container space and the cargo loading
- A few buttons and checkboxes in the right side

To start, move the mouse cursor on a number box for a quantity of a cargo, roll the wheel the mouse to increase or decrease the number, and see a loading plan computed accordingly. Below I am changing the quantity of cargo H to 22.



You can move cursor and roll up the quantity of other cargo, and see the cargo loading plan evolve. Nevertheless, as more cargo added, you notice the app will react slower.

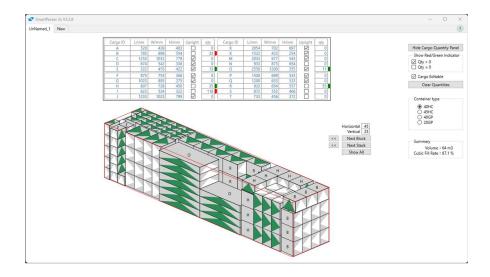
In that case, you can select a number box and type the quantity, e.g. 55, directly then type "return", so the app won't have to compute the loading plans for quantities from 1 to 54, but compute and show you with a plan for 55 directly.



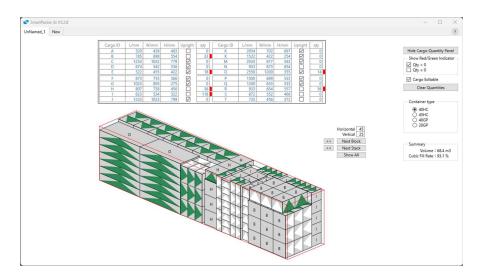
For the 6 number boxes with a no-zero quantity, you see a green light indicator besides, which is to tell you that quantity can still be increased.

Then as you continue to grow the quantities, some of them will turn red.

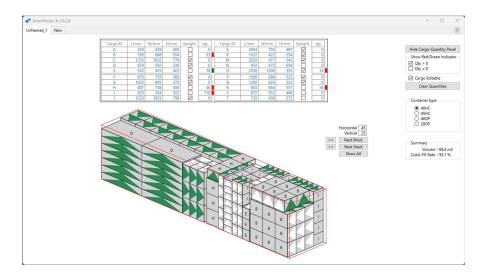
The current version only supports stacking by same cargo, so the app will not place cargo B, which has turned red, on top of the cargo O, which is still green. (We know you'd want that and we are working on it.)



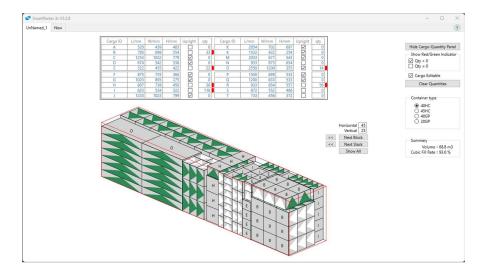
Then you can follow the green light to increase quantities till all red. Now you see the cubic fill rate made 93.1% in the right panel.



At this point, image you are desperate to add a few more cargo E, which currently requires placed upright. But you guess the box will be ok to stands on its side, so you click the checkbox to remove that constraint, and are delighted to see its indicator turns green.

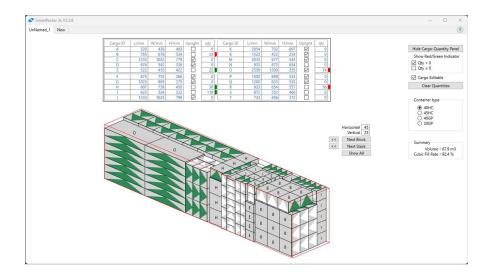


And you got the quantity of cargo E increased by 4.



You may have another "What if" question: the cargo B is sth wrapped with soft materials, and your boss believes it should be ok to press some air out. You can explore this option by tunning down its dimensions, say decrease 20 mm in it length, width and height.

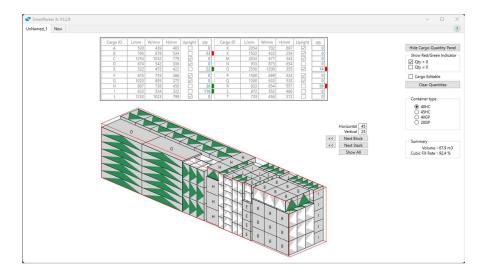
You go ahead and changed its dimensions, it turns out, cargo B is rather altruistic, that it still shows red, about allowed E, H, and I to turned green to add more.



The changes you made on cargo dimensions will be automatically saved into the data.xlsx, then next time you open the app you still have the changes. Nevertheless, you may want to save a backup copy of the data.xlsx so you can restore the original when needed.

The convenience of moving cursor and rolling mouse wheel to change the cargo, brings a risk that you, or your cat, may make changes unintentionally.

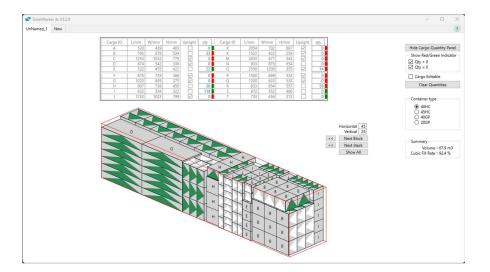
To avoid that, uncheck the "Cargo Editable" checkbox in the right panel, then the cargo specifications will turn into gray color, indicating they are not editable.



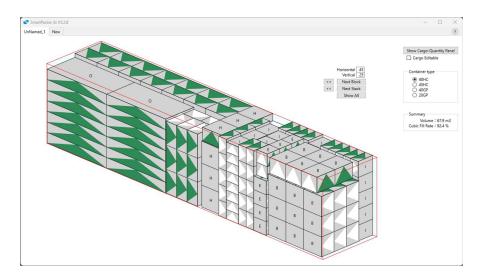
While you see 3 red and 3 green lights in the screenshot above, you may wonder how about the other cargo? can some of them be able to add as well?

To check that, you click and check the "Qty = 0" checkbox in the right panel, and see other 3 cargo A, S, T can be added.

It takes time for the app to compute whether a cargo can be added or not, so when you feel the app getting slow, you can uncheck "Qty=0" and even "Qty>0" to see get it faster.



The "Hide Cargo-Quantity Panel" button will hide the upper panel to make room for larger illustration, which can be useful when you checking the loading plan on a laptop screen in the loading dock.



The "Horizontal" and "Vertical" number box enable you to adjust viewing angle of the container loading plan, and the "Next Block" and "Next Stack" button help you see the loading plan by steps, which is instrumental to reveal the hidden sections.

