



SECRETS KEPT SAFE

Why the Hoover Institution Library & Archives, Stanford University used ROKBOX LOOP to transport a Cold War spymaster's archive across continents.



HOOVER
INSTITUTION
LIBRARY & ARCHIVES



ONE OF A KIND

Colin Stinson, Head of Preservation and Talia Olshefsky, Head of Archival Processing and Description used ROKBOX LOOP for the safe transfer of archival materials from Berlin to the Hoover Institution Library & Archives, Stanford University...

"We're a pretty unique customer for ROKBOX and this was one of our most successful projects. It's been fantastic making this work for us."

- Colin Stinson, Head of Preservation

EMBRACING THE NEW

Colin had to demonstrate to his senior leadership, curatorial and finance teams that ROKBOX crates were a better option than the traditional crating they had used for decades.

“We are the first archive to use this kind of packaging, and as no one could envision it, we had to trial it to get everyone on board.”

*“At first my colleagues didn’t understand how it could work but I said, ‘**Look, it’s going to work, it’ll be better**’.”*



TESTING AND LEARNING

Loaning a trial crate from ROKBOX LOOP Official Suppliers, Gander & White, Colin and team prototyped how they might use the crate.

*“We were interested to see how the archival document boxes would stack inside a ROKBOX, whether it needed a little shelf, or whether we could just use a piece of board in between or Ethafoam. **Ultimately, we figured out that it didn't need anything.**”*



HANDLING WITH CARE

Fine Art Shippers Tandem helped pack the ROKBOXs onsite in Berlin.

“They got so into the product. Talia and I had our gloves on ready to start packing, and the Tandem team jumped in and started rearranging boxes.”

*“They came up with a **unique, staggered interior design with the ROKBOX Combi-clamps** that meant we could fit the maximum amount of materials inside the crate. It was very cool.”*



LIGHTENING THE LOAD

*“We were pleasantly surprised at the cost savings. **We saved almost a third compared to what we’d typically pay.***

*“High value archives usually require custom, premier crates, which are expensive and seriously heavy. **ROKBOX provides the same level of protection with half the weight.***

“And we were really happy here to see the crates leave and be reused for another project. Typically we would store or destroy crates and it’s a problem that has concerned me for years, so that really changes things.”



CUTTING THE MUSTARD

“The experience was exceptional - the product and the customer service.

“The ROKBOX team were super responsive when we were on site in Berlin, and that was extremely helpful because we were on a really tight timeline.”

- Colin Stinson, Head of Preservation,
Hoover Institution Library & Archives,
Stanford University



PROTECTING WHAT MATTERS

By using ROKBOX LOOP instead of traditional crating, the Hoover Institution Library & Archives, Stanford University saved:

1/3 costs

4.9 tonnes CO₂e

1.1 tonnes packaging waste

The project aligned with the Bizot Green Protocol and the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability initiative.

Carbon saving calculations based on Sustainability in Cultural Heritage (STICH) LCA data and the Gallery Climate Coalition Calculator



With many thanks

Thank you to Colin Stinson and Talia Olshefsky at the Hoover Institution. And thanks to fine art shippers Tandem and LOOP partners Gander & White.

ROKBOX LOOP is an international network of reusable fine art ROKBOX crates that reduce the risks, costs, waste and carbon emissions of fine art shipping (by 85% avg).

Contact info@rok-box.com for more information

