

**Name of the event:** Acanthus Research Paper Presentation

**Title:** Cold Storage

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**Abstract:**

Although, COLD STORES are recognized as a sunrise sector in India, there is a tremendous scope for the development of cold chain facilities, given the market potential in the country. However, developing an efficient cold chain logistics system with the latest technologies and capital intensive. The Government of capacity is highly India permitted 100 per cent FDI in the cold chain sector through the automatic route, exempted air-conditioning equipment and refrigeration panels used in cold chain from excise duty and allowed duty free import of refrigerated units used in reefer trucks. Government has taken initiatives, through bodies like NHB, to establish standards for all the arms of the cold chain. Efforts are also being made to evolve new concept-Green Cold Chat. This is a step in the right direction to enhance and attract investment. The cold storage sector is undergoing a major metamorphosis, with the Government focusing on food preservation. A lot of stress is being laid on energy efficiency as the cold stores are energy intensive. With the advent of newer materials/ equipment, every part of a cold chain renders itself amenable for improvement. As a result type of construction, insulation, refrigeration equipment, type of controls all of them are witnessing changes. Yet the foreign investor is shying away from taking the risk. It is primarily lack of infrastructure like road, proper distribution chain and the high cost of setting up a cold storage unit. Barring a few Indians, others are not willing to pay high price for quality goods as is in abroad where produce are highly outsourced and hence demand more cold storage Though financial investment in cold storage facilities and refrigerated transport is vital there are some challenges like high lifecycle costs for a cold storage facility; uneven distribution of cold storage facilities and low awareness about the best storage practices among the industry players. The private sector needs to be encouraged to play a more significant role to develop the space further, including implementing proven cold storage refrigeration technology solutions available cold chain today. These technology solutions range from multi cold storage facilities. The paper would cover current trends in cold infrastructural requirements, supply chain logistics and challenges amongst other points.