This procedure will cover the steps to properly pack up the AR500/550/1000 for shipment.

**Packing Materials Provided:**
- AR shipping box
- Complete shipping foam set (6 pieces)

**Misc. Items Required:**
- Bearing cap
- 8mm air inlet plug
- Shipping skid

**Tools Required:**
- Masking tape
- Heavy-duty packing tape
- Strapping kit

1.) Make sure air is turned on.
2.) Raise/lower air bearing head, so the top of the draw rod is approx. 4” from the top of the test station. The top of spindle should be slightly lower than the cutout in the middle of the test station. If it is too low OR too high it may be difficult to pack in a carton (Figure 1).

![Figure 1](image)

3.) Switch OFF the Electronics box.
4.) Remove geometry from air bearing shaft and store in a safe place.

5.) **Remove all accessories attached to the instrument. These should be disconnected from the instrument prior to shipping.** If you are shipping the accessories along with the instrument, they should be packaged separately in their own box.
   
   a.) **PELTIER OPTION:** Shut down the circulator that supplies water to instrument. Remove two hoses that supply fluid to peltier. Carefully blow out remaining fluid from peltier OR tilt instrument backwards for water to flow out completely.
   
   b.) **ETC OPTION:** Loosen the 5 screws holding the ETC on the back of AR Instrument. Hold the ETC handles, open ETC wide and carefully slide up the oven until there is enough space to separate the ETC from AR instrument.
   
   c.) **ASPHALT BATH OPTION:** Shut down the circulator that supplies water to the instrument. Remove all hoses connected between circulator and asphalt bath. Remove the Event box on the back of AR Instrument. Save all screws in a plastic bag.

6.) Lock Air Bearing with draw rod and bearing clamp. Ensure that the Air bearing clamp cannot be moved. Use masking tape to hold the clamp to bearing cover.

7.) Disconnect the airline to the back of the instrument and insert the 8mm air inlet plug. If you do not have a 8mm air inlet plug, cover up the air inlet with some tape.

8.) Mark all cables connected to the AR Instrument.

9.) Disconnect all cables between Test Station and Electronics box.

10.) **If shipping the instrument in the reusable TA plastic shipping container:**
   a. Place electronics box in shipping container.
   b. Place test station “face up” in shipping container.
   c. Include any cables, cords, and small accessories.
   d. Close top portion of shipping container over the instrument. Secure the latches on all of the sides.
   e. Your instrument is now ready to ship.

**If shipping the instrument in the cardboard carton, follow steps below:**

11.) Remove feet from instrument.

12.) Place cables and feet in a plastic bag (Figure 2).
13.) Place bottom foams in the box (Figure 3).
14.) Lift the Test Station and place it gently in the packing box (Figure 4).
   DO NOT HOLD the bearing when lifting AR Test Station.

15.) Guard the bearing with foams (Figure 5).
16.) Place the Electronics box in the carton and cover it with the appropriate foam (Figure 6).
17.) Insert base support foam in the space between Test Station base and corrugated box (Figure 6)

18.) Insert packaged cables and feet into the box.
19.) Seal the box with heavy-duty tape.
20.) Strap the box tight and secure on a pallet (Figure 9).
21.) Instrument is now ready to ship.

*TA Instruments strongly recommends using a Motor Freight Carrier!*