CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for monitoring cargo conditions within a shipping container, comprising:

at least one environmental sensor with a temporary interface portion, the at least one environmental monitor to monitor at least one environmental parameter associated with the cargo;

a controller to log a plurality of readings from each of the at least one environmental sensors; and

a sensor interface to facilitate communication between the at least one environmental sensor and the controller, wherein the sensor interface includes an embedded interface portion disposed within a structure of the shipping container to receive the temporary interface portion of the at least one environmental sensor.

2. The apparatus of any of the preceding claims, wherein the at least one environmental parameter includes at least one of a temperature, a humidity, an ethylene level, and a carbon dioxide level.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the sensor interface is a wired sensor interface.

4. The apparatus of claim any of the preceding claims, wherein the sensor interface includes at least one plug termination associated with the embedded interface portion and the temporary interface portion.

5. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the at least one plug termination is disposed on or in a floor or a ceiling of the shipping container.

6. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the at least one plug termination is disposed on or in a wall of the shipping container.

7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the sensor interface includes a wireless sensor interface and the at least one environmental sensors are wireless environmental sensors.

8. A method for monitoring cargo conditions within a shipping container, comprising:

providing at least one environmental sensor with a temporary interface portion;

monitoring at least one environmental parameter via the at least one environmental sensor;

logging a plurality of readings from each of the at least one environmental sensors via a controller;

communicating between the at least one environmental sensor and the controller via a sensor interface, wherein the sensor interface includes an embedded interface portion

disposed within a structure of the shipping container to receive the temporary interface portion of the at least one environmental sensor.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the sensor interface is a wired sensor interface.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the sensor interface includes at least one plug termination associated with the embedded interface portion and the temporary interface portion, the at least one plug termination is disposed on or in a floor or a ceiling of the shipping container.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the sensor interface includes at least one plug termination associated with the embedded interface portion and the temporary interface portion, the at least one plug termination is disposed on or in a wall of the shipping container.

12. The method of claim 8, wherein the sensor interface includes a wireless sensor interface and the at least one environmental sensors are wireless environmental sensors.