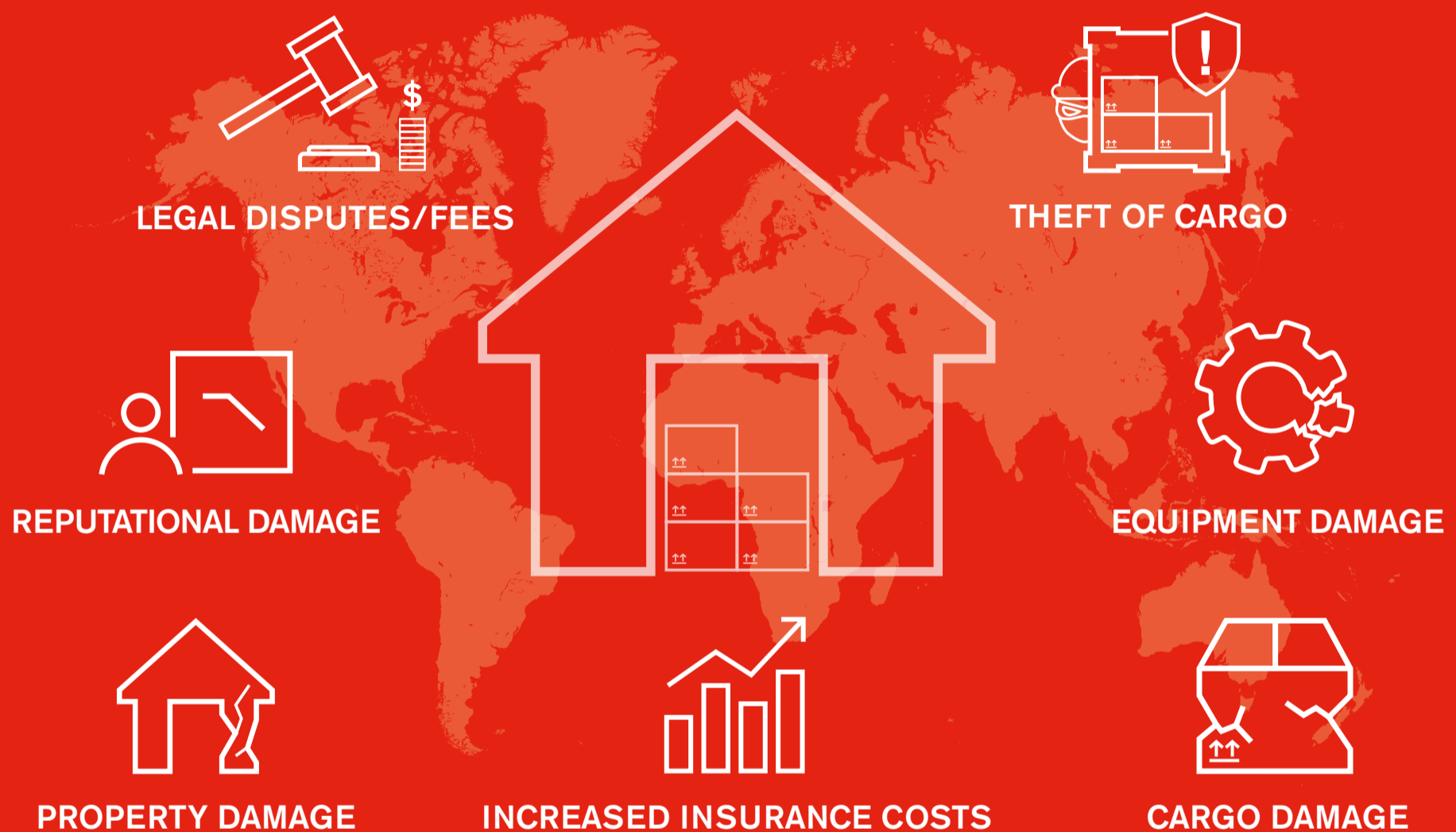


# Choosing a storage warehouse

When choosing a warehouse, are you aware of all the risks?

Initial practical considerations will inevitably relate to location, proximity to transport networks, capacity, availability of labour and rental prices and land costs.

## What are the risks?



## How can you mitigate these risks?

### PHYSICAL CONSTRUCTION

Before leasing or purchasing a warehouse, consider its suitability by appointing a surveyor to establish suitability factors, such as its age and structural integrity, previous modifications, drainage, maximum weight bearing, structural dimensions, power supply, fire detection and suppression and water supply.

### HEALTH AND SAFETY

Assess and resolve any safety concerns, maintaining full documentary record. These include: health and safety maintenance logs, review schedules and responsibilities, fire and operational risks, fire detection and suppression equipment, emergency response plan, employee protocol awareness and enforcement of safety rules.

### LOCATION

Be sure that the location is suitable by checking: suitability of access, any time restrictions on use of machinery, local developments that may disrupt operations, susceptibility to climate risks and any adjacent neighbour risks.

### SECURITY

Assess the security by considering: local crime levels, security arrangements, gates and perimeter fencing, employee and third-party access protocols and compliance with national and international dangerous goods storage regulations (if applicable).

### LEASING CONSIDERATIONS

If you are leasing you may also need to consider your responsibilities for maintenance and repair, specific lease terms and your freedom to adapt the facility.

### OPERATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Ensure that current and future requirements are sufficient, including: capacity, temperature control, vehicular access and parking and pedestrian access.

