

Procedures for Shipping and Labelling Dangerous Goods

Marking of Packages

All packages containing dangerous goods must be marked with the UN number and the Proper Shipping Name (PSN) of the goods transported. The marking must be on two opposite sides of the package.

For radioactive materials, there are specific regulations to refer to. If the package contains substances classified as **Marine Pollutants**, the appropriate mark must be added as specified in the IMO Manual, paragraph 5.2.1.6.3.

Labelling of Packages

Each package containing dangerous goods must be labelled with at least one hazard label, indicating the primary hazard. Any secondary hazards are listed in column 4 of the **Dangerous Goods List** (Chapter 3.2 of the IMO Manual) or column 6 for Special Provisions.

In some cases, the package may be exempt from labelling and only require a hazard class marking, such as for UN 1374, which follows **Special Provision 29**. For radioactive materials, two labels are required on opposite sides of the package. The labels must be square, minimum size 10 x 10 cm, with an angle of 45°.

Class 2 gas cylinders may use smaller labels, to be placed on the non-cylindrical part (shoulder) of the cylinders. All labels must be of a quality to withstand immersion in water for at least three months.

Goods Transport Unit Labelling

Transport units containing dangerous goods must be labelled to provide visible information, unless this information is already clearly visible on the packages within the unit. These labels must withstand immersion in sea water for at least three months. Once the dangerous goods are unloaded, all labels and markings must be removed from the unit.

Labels must indicate the primary hazard of the goods transported, with the exception of the following situations:

1. Explosives of division 1.4, compatibility group S.
2. Dangerous goods in limited quantities or packages free of radioactive materials.
3. Substances belonging to more than one division of Class 1, where only the greatest hazard is to be indicated.

Marking and Labelling of Transport Units

Transport units must bear a danger label on each side and at the ends. In the case of multi-compartment tanks, each compartment must be labelled individually. For the transport of dangerous goods in tanks or in limited quantities, specific instructions are to be followed, as stated in Section 5.3.2.

The Proper Shipping Name of the substances contained inside must be marked on both sides of the transport unit, as provided for tanks, bulk transport units, or units carrying a single type of dangerous good. The UN number must be visible on an orange panel or inside the hazard label.

Documentation

The transport document for dangerous goods must contain:

1. The UN number preceded by 'UN'.
2. The Proper Shipping Name (PSN).
3. The hazard class and, if applicable, the subsidiary risk.
4. The packing group (PG), if assigned.
5. The number of packages, the type of packaging and the total quantity.

For some goods, the Proper Shipping Name must be supplemented with additional information (e.g. for n.o.s. or high temperature materials). In addition, the packing certificate must confirm that the unit preparation operations were carried out according to the established rules, ensuring safety during transport.