



DGAC Hazmat News

DGAC is a leading international membership organization representing all aspects of the hazardous materials/dangerous goods transportation industry

This morning's email notice was misleading to some:

The correct reference to the requirement which became mandatory October 1, 2007 is 172.202(a)(7). It states:

"172.202(a)(7) The total quantity of the material covered by one description must appear before or after, or both before and after, the description required and authorized by this subpart. The type of packaging and destination marks may be entered in any appropriate manner before or after the basic description. Abbreviations may be used to express units of measurement and types of packagings."

Note that abbreviations are permitted.

As indicated previously this requirement is in addition to providing the total quantity of hazardous materials (see 172.202(a)(5)). But note that there are exceptions to 172.202(a)(5) in 172.202(a)(5)(i), (ii) and (iii).

For your convenience the entire text of 172.202 is provided below.

Frits Wybenga
Technical Director

§ 172.202 Description of hazardous material on shipping papers.

(a) The shipping description of a hazardous material on the shipping paper must include:

(1) The identification number prescribed for the material as shown in Column (4) of the §172.101 table;

(2) The proper shipping name prescribed for the material in Column (2) of the §172.101 table;

(3) The hazard class or division number prescribed for the material, as shown in Column (3) of the §172.101 table. Except for combustible liquids, the subsidiary hazard class(es) or subsidiary division number(s) must be entered in parentheses immediately following the primary hazard class or division number. In addition—

(i) The words "Class" or "Division" may be included preceding the primary and subsidiary hazard class or division numbers.

(ii) The hazard class need not be included for the entry "Combustible liquid, n.o.s."

(iii) For domestic shipments, primary and subsidiary hazard class or division names may be entered

following the numerical hazard class or division, or following the basic description.

(4) The packing group in Roman numerals, as designated for the hazardous material in Column (5) of the §172.101 table. Class 1 (explosives) materials, self-reactive substances, organic peroxides and entries that are not assigned a packing group are excepted from this requirement. The packing group may be preceded by the letters "PG" (for example, "PG II"); and

(5) Except for transportation by aircraft, the total quantity of hazardous materials covered by the description must be indicated (by mass or volume, or by activity for Class 7 materials) and must include an indication of the applicable unit of measurement. For example, "200 kg" or "50 L." The following provisions also apply:

(i) For Class 1 materials, the quantity must be the net explosive mass. For an explosive that is an article, such as Cartridges, small arms, the net explosive mass may be expressed in terms of the net mass of either the article or the explosive materials contained in the article.

(ii) For hazardous materials in salvage packaging, an estimate of the total quantity is acceptable.

(iii) The following are excepted from the requirements of paragraph (a)(5) of this section:

(A) Bulk packages, provided some indication of the total quantity is shown, for example, "1 cargo tank" or "2 IBCs."

(B) Cylinders, provided some indication of the total quantity is shown, for example, "10 cylinders."

(C) Packages containing only residue.

(6) For transportation by aircraft, the total net mass per package, must be shown unless a gross mass is indicated in Columns (9A) or (9B) of the §172.101 table in which case the total gross mass per package must be shown; or, for Class 7 materials, the quantity of radioactive material must be shown by activity. The following provisions also apply:

(i) For empty uncleaned packaging, only the number and type of packaging must be shown;

(ii) For chemical kits and first aid kits, the total net mass of hazardous materials must be shown. Where the kits contain solids and/or liquids, the net mass of liquids within the kits is to be calculated on a 1 to 1 basis, i.e., 1 L equals 1 kg;

(iii) For dangerous goods in machinery or apparatus, the individual total quantities or an estimate of the individual total quantities of dangerous goods in solid, liquid or gaseous state, contained in the article must be shown;

(iv) For dangerous goods transported in a salvage packaging, an estimate of the quantity of dangerous goods per package must be shown;

(v) For cylinders, total quantity may be indicated by the number of cylinders, for example, "10 cylinders;"

(vi) For items where "No Limit" is shown in Column (9A) or (9B) of the §172.101 table, the quantity shown should be the net mass or volume of the material, except for UN2800, UN3072, and UN3166 where the quantity should be the gross mass of the article; and

(7) The number and type of packages must be indicated. The type of packages must be indicated by

description of the package (for example, "12 drums"). Indication of the packaging specification number ("1H1") may be included in the description of the package (for example, "12 1H1 drums" or "12 drums (UN 1A1)"). Abbreviations may be used for indicating packaging types (for example, "cyl." for "cylinder") provided the abbreviations are commonly accepted and recognizable.