



WORKING PAPER

**DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP)
MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE**

Atlantic City, United States, 4 to 8 April 2011

Agenda Item 2: Development of recommendations for amendments to the *Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (Doc 9284)* for incorporation in the 2013-2014 Edition

2.5: Part 5 — Shipper's Responsibilities

DECLARATION OF "GROSS MASS" ON THE DANGEROUS GOODS TRANSPORT DOCUMENT

(Presented by D. Brennan)

SUMMARY

This working paper proposes a revision to the information required on the dangerous goods transport document for substances and articles where no specific quantity limit is shown in Table 3-1.

Action by the DGP-WG is in paragraph 2.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The data that is required on the dangerous goods transport document serves to provide information to those in the transport chain as to the nature of the contents of the consignment. The dangerous goods transport document also provides a basis for the airline dangerous goods acceptance staff to verify that the consignment, as far as the documentation is concerned, is acceptable for carriage.

1.2 For the airline dangerous goods acceptance process one of the key pieces of information is the declared net quantity per package of the dangerous goods. The purpose here being that the person conducting the acceptance check can validate that the declared net quantity does not exceed the limit specified in Table 3-1 for the listed item.

1.3 Some substances and articles though do not have a specific net quantity limit in Table 3-1, but rather have "see PI" or "No limit". For these the approach has been to either specifically require that the shipper declare the net quantity where the particular packing instruction specifies a limit, e.g. Packing Instruction 962 for UN 3363, Dangerous goods in apparatus, or in machinery, or where there is no specific limit, to require that the shipper declare the gross mass of the completed package.

1.4 This approach though has not been entirely successful as there remains confusion on the part of shippers and dangerous goods acceptance staff as to whether a particular substance or article should be described on the dangerous goods transport document with the net quantity or a gross mass.

1.5 It is therefore believed that the best approach is to standardize on always requiring that the shipper declare the net quantity of the dangerous goods, other than for dangerous goods in limited quantity where there are number of substances and articles that are limited only by the maximum gross mass of 30 kg.

1.6 One of the proposals contained in DGP-WG/11-WP/37 is to modify the definition of “net quantity” to better identify just what the net quantity is, primarily for articles where there does appear to be some confusion. On the assumption that the proposal is adopted, it is further proposed to modify Part 5;4.1.5.1 to remove reference to gross mass, other than for limited quantity. Also, for limited quantity it is proposed to make provision for when different dangerous goods limited by gross mass are packed together in the same outer packaging. This issue is causing some confusion and a solution is proposed that would make the description of the applicable quantities clear.

2. ACTION BY THE DGP-WG

2.1 The DGP-WG is invited to revise Part 5;4.1.51 as follows:

4.1.5.1 *Quantity of dangerous goods, number and type of packagings*

The number of packages, type of packaging (e.g. steel drum, fibreboard box, etc.) and net quantity of dangerous goods in each package (by volume or mass, as appropriate) must be indicated for each item of dangerous goods bearing a different proper shipping name, UN number or packing group. Abbreviations may be used to specify the unit of measurement for the quantity. For packages containing the same dangerous goods and quantity per package a multiple of the quantity may be used. For example:

UN 1263, Paint, 3, PG II, 5 fibreboard boxes x 5 L

Consignment comprising packages of different quantities of the same dangerous good must be clearly identified. For example:

UN 1263, Paint, 3, PG II, 5 fibreboard boxes x 5 L, 10 fibreboard boxes x 10 L

UN packaging codes may only be used to supplement the description of the kind of package (e.g. one fibreboard box (4G)). For limited quantities, Where the letter “G” follows the quantity in column 11 or 13 of Table 3-1 the gross mass of each package must be indicated, rather than the net quantity, except when there are different dangerous goods packed together in the same outer packaging, which must be described as shown in paragraph e); and:

- a) for empty uncleaned packagings as described by 4.1.4.3 b) only the number and type of packagings need be shown;
- b) for chemical kits and first aid kits, the total net mass of dangerous goods. 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 of their volume, i.e. 1 litre equal to 1 kilogram;
- c) for dangerous goods in machinery or apparatus, the individual total quantities of dangerous goods in solid, liquid or gaseous state, contained in the article;
- d) for dangerous goods transported in salvage packagings, an estimate of the quantity of dangerous goods must be given;
- e) for items where “No Limit” or a packing instruction number is shown in columns 10 to 13 of Table 3-1, the quantity must be: for dangerous goods in limited quantity with a 30 kg G limit in Table 3-1, where different dangerous goods are packed together in the same outer packaging, the net quantity of each dangerous goods followed by the gross mass of the completed package;

- ~~1) for substances the net mass or volume (e.g. UN 2969, UN 3291);~~
 - ~~2) for UN 3091 and UN 3481 when packed with equipment in accordance with Packing Instructions 969 and 966 respectively, the net quantity of battery(ies) per package; and~~
 - ~~3) for other articles the gross mass, followed by the letter G (e.g. UN 2794, UN 2800, UN 2990, UN 3166).~~
- f) for explosive articles of Class 1, the net quantity indicated for each package must be supplemented with the net explosive mass (see Part 1;3.1.1 for the definition of net explosive mass) contained in the package followed by the unit of measurement. The abbreviations "NEQ", "NEM" or "NEW" may be indicated in association with the value provided.

Note.— The number, type and capacity of each inner packaging within the outer packaging of a combination packaging is not required to be indicated.

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