

IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations

PACKING INSTRUCTION 602

STATE VARIATIONS: AUG-03, BHG-02, CAG-05/10/11, DQG-03, USG-13, VUG-02

OPERATOR VARIATIONS: AF-04, AS-08, CI-01, CC-07, CS-07, FX-09, HA-03, LA-07, LH-12, US-08

This instruction applies to UN 2814 and UN 2900.

The General Packing Requirements of 5.0.2 must be met.

Packagings must be marked as required by 6.0.6 and must, as demonstrated by tests, be capable of successfully passing the design type tests of 6.6.

30-foot drop tests with report, but not UN specification packaging.

General Requirements

Shippers of infectious substances must comply with these Regulations and must ensure that packages are prepared in such a manner that they arrive at their destination in good condition and present no hazard to persons or animals during transport. The packagings must include:

(a) inner packagings, comprising of:

- watertight primary receptacle(s);
- a watertight secondary packaging;
- other than for solid infectious substances, absorbent material, such as cotton wool, in sufficient quantity to absorb the entire contents placed between the primary receptacle(s) and the secondary packaging; if multiple fragile primary receptacles are placed in a single secondary packaging, they shall be either individually wrapped or separated so as to prevent contact between them;

(b) an itemized list of contents, enclosed between the secondary packaging and the outer packaging; and

(c) a rigid outer packaging of adequate strength for its capacity, weight and intended use. The smallest external dimension must be not less than 100 mm (4 in.).

Whatever the intended temperature of the consignment, the primary receptacle or the secondary packaging must be capable of withstanding, without leakage, an internal pressure producing a pressure differential of not less than 95 kPa (0.95 bar, 13.8 lb/in² and temperatures in the range of -40C to +55C (-40F to +130F).

Additional Requirements

Inner packagings containing infectious substances must not be consolidated with inner packagings containing unrelated types of goods. Complete packages may be overpacked in accordance with the provisions of 5.0.1.5.

When the infectious substances to be transported are unknown but suspected of meeting the criteria for inclusion in Category A and assignment to UN 2814 or UN 2900, the words "Suspected Category A Infectious Substance" must be shown in parentheses following the proper shipping name on the itemized list of contents inside the outer packaging.

All packages containing infectious substances must be marked durably and legibly on the outside of the package with the NAME and TELEPHONE NUMBER OF A PERSON RESPONSIBLE.

Specific Requirements

Other than for exceptional consignments, for example, large body parts and whole organs which require special packaging, the following specific requirements apply:

Substances consigned at ambient or higher temperatures: Primary receptacles must be of glass; metal or plastic. Positive means of ensuring a leak-proof seal must be provided, such as heat seal, skirted stopper or metal crimp seal. If screw caps are used, these must be secured by positive means, e.g. tape, paraffin, sealing tape, or manufactured locking closure.

Substances consigned refrigerated or frozen (wet ice, prefrozen packs, Carbon dioxide, solid [dry ice]): Ice, Carbon dioxide, solid (dry ice) or other refrigerant must be placed around the secondary packaging(s) or alternatively in an overpack with one or more complete packages marked in accordance with 6.0.6. Interior support must be provided to secure the secondary packaging(s) or packages in the original position after the ice or Carbon dioxide, solid (dry ice) has dissipated. If ice is used, the outer packaging or overpack must be leak-proof. If Carbon dioxide, solid (dry ice) is used, the outer packaging or overpack must permit the release of carbon dioxide gas. The primary receptacle and the secondary packaging must maintain their integrity at the temperature of the refrigerant used.

Substances consigned in liquid nitrogen: Plastic primary receptacles capable of withstanding very low temperatures must be used. The secondary packaging must be capable of withstanding very low temperatures and in most cases will need to be fitted over the primary receptacle individually. Provisions for the consignment of liquid nitrogen must also be fulfilled. The primary receptacle and the secondary packaging must maintain their integrity at the temperature of the refrigerant used.

Lyophilized substances: Primary receptacles must be either flame-sealed glass ampules or rubber-stoppered glass vials fitted with metal seals.