

The Amended Dangerous Goods Ordinance

March 31, 2022

Effective

Packing, Marking and Labelling

Proper Regulation of Dangerous Goods Better Protection for Our Home and Lives



Hong Kong
Fire Services Department

For more information, please visit
Hong Kong Fire Services Department
Dangerous Goods Thematic Website

www.hkfsd.gov.hk/dg



Know More About Packing, Marking and Labelling

The new regulatory system comprehensively sets out the licensing regime for the manufacture, conveyance, storage and use of Dangerous Goods ("DG"), as well as the new requirements for Packing, Marking and Labelling ("PML") of DG. The amendment brought the local regulatory system of DG in line with the international standards. It has also enhanced the safety standard of regulatory control of DG in Hong Kong, and facilitated the daily use of DG by the public and the operation of the trade.

*Requirements for PML are independent from the licencing requirements.

Why do we need PML?

1. To raise public awareness
2. To enhance safety in handling DG
3. To assist the trade in conducting risk management

Packing Requirements

Except for DG in Consumer Packs ("DGCP"), packing requirements under the new regulation apply to all types of DG. Details of the requirements can be found in Schedule 6 of the Dangerous Goods (Control) Regulation, Cap. 295G, Laws of Hong Kong ("Cap. 295G") and the Code of Practice for Control of Dangerous Goods on Land ("CoP").

What is suitable packaging?

- 1 Packaging of all DG should be maintained in good condition to prevent leakage or spillage of content.
- 2 Packaging should not be adversely affected when coming into contact with the content, e.g. chemical reaction resulted from the contact between the interior surface of the packaging and the DG.
- 3 Packaging should be capable of withstanding ordinary risks during storage and conveyance, e.g. vibration during transportation.
- 4 Packaging should be capable of withstanding any pressure likely to be generated in it, e.g. volatility of Class 3 DG inside the container.



How to determine the packing requirements?

- Determined by the level of hazard of the DG.

How to know the packing requirements of the DG?

- Check the basic packing instructions according to the list of DG in the CoP.

UN No.	Proper Shipping Name	Class	Packing	
			Basic Packing Instructions	Special Packing
1207	Hexaldehyde	3	BP001	–
1208	Hexanes	3	BP001	–

Basic Packing Instruction BP001

Single packagings	Maximum capacity
Example Drums <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Steel, non-removable head - Aluminium, non-removable head - Metal, other than steel or aluminium, non-removable head - Plastics, non-removable head 	250L

Combination packagings		Maximum net mass
Inner packagings (Maximum capacity)	Outer packagings	
Example Glass 10L Plastics 30L Metal 40L	Example Drums <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Steel - Aluminium - Metal, other than steel or aluminium - Plastics - Plywood - Fibre 	75kg

* For more information, please refer to the CoP

Marking Requirements

- The "UN Number" / "HK Number" and the "Proper Shipping Name" / "True Name" of the DG shall be clearly marked on the outermost packaging.
- The information must be marked in such a manner that it is clearly identifiable despite any exposure to open air and water.

Reference:

UN1230	H301
Methanol	Diesel

UN No. / HK No.	1230	H301
Proper Shipping Name	Methanol	Diesel

Labelling Requirements

- Class of DG and its subsidiary hazard(s) shall be displayed on the outermost packaging.

Reference:



Labelling

1. The label must be properly attached or affixed to the outer surface of the packaging in an upright or a flat position.
2. The label must be displayed on a background of contrasting colour on the outer surface of the packaging, or, if a background of contrasting colour cannot be provided, have a dotted or solid outer boundary line.
3. The label must be clearly identifiable despite any exposure to open air and water.
4. The label must be square-shaped, with the minimum length of each side measuring 100mm (minimum dimensions).
5. If it is not feasible to display a label of the minimum dimensions due to the size or shape of the packaging — must be of reasonable dimensions that are, having regard to the size or shape of the packaging, appropriate for the packaging and must remain clearly visible and legible.

*For detailed labelling format, please refer to Schedule 6 of Cap. 295G

Legal effect of complying with International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code)

Unless otherwise specified, if the DG has been packed, with marks and labels added according to the IMDG Code, it is deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of PML.



Exemption from PML

- To facilitate the daily use of DG by the public and the operation of the trade, conditional exemptions are granted under the new legislation.

1. DGCP

Containers of DG with capacities not exceeding the "Maximum Package Size" specified in Schedule 2 of Dangerous Goods (Application and Exemption) Regulation 2012 ("Cap. 295E") are regarded as DGCP, and are exempt from all PML requirements.

2. DG in Limited Packs

DG with package size not exceeding the limited quantity specified in Schedule 2 of Cap. 295E is exempt from all marking and labelling requirements, while the packing requirements must still be met.

3. Other Conditions

Alcoholic beverages, Class 3A DG stored in approved tanks and DG forming part of machinery are exempt from PML requirements.

Regarding the detailed requirements for PML of DG, please refer to Cap. 295G and CoP.

For more information about DG, please visit the Fire Services Department Dangerous Goods Thematic Website

www.hkfsd.gov.hk/dg