

CLASSIFICATION FOR HAZARDOUS CARGOES

THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS AND MARINE POLLUTANTS IN SEAGOING VESSELS IS REGULATED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA (SOLAS) AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS (MARPOL), RESPECTIVELY.

THOSE RELEVANT PARTS OF BOTH CONVENTIONS (SOLAS AND MARPOL) HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED IN DEPTH AND INCLUDED IN THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME DANGEROUS GOODS CODE (IMDG), CAUSING THIS CODE TO BECOME THE LEGAL INSTRUMENT FOR MARITIME TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS AND MARINE POLLUTANTS. ON 1ST JANUARY, 2004, IMDG CODE BECAME A COMPULSORY REQUIREMENT.

CLASSIFICATION OF DANGEROUS GOODS. THE CLASSIFICATION (GROUPING) OF DANGEROUS GOODS BY KIND OF RISK, FOR ALL MODES OF TRANSPORT (MARITIME, AIR, RAIL AND INLAND NAVIGATION), HAS BEEN PREPARED BY THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS.



CLASS 1 - Explosives

- 1.1 Substances and articles which have a mass explosion hazard.
- 1.2 Substances and articles which have a projection hazard but not a mass explosion hazard.
- 1.3 Substances and articles which have a fire hazard and either a minor blast hazard or a minor projection hazard or both, but not a mass explosion hazard.
- 1.4 Substances and articles which present no significant hazard.
- 1.5 Very insensitive substances which have a mass explosion hazard.
- 1.6 Extremely insensitive articles which do not have a mass explosion hazard.



CLASS 2 - Gases: Compressed, Liquefied or Dissolved under Pressure

- 2.1 Flammable gases
- 2.2 Non-Flammable gases
- 2.3 Toxic gases



CLASS 3 - Flammable Liquids

A flammable liquid (Class 3) means a liquid having a flash point of not more than 60.5°C (141°F), or any material in a liquid phase with a flash point at or above 37.8°C (100°F) that is intentionally heated and offered for transportation or transported at or above its flash point in a bulk packaging.



CLASS 4 - Flammable Solids or Substances

- 4.1 Flammable solids
- 4.2 Substances liable to spontaneous combustion
- 4.3 Substances which, in contact with water, emit flammable gases.



CLASS 5 - Oxidizing Substances (agents) and Organic Peroxides

- 5.1 Oxidizing substances (agents) by yielding oxygen increase the risk and intensity of fire.
- 5.2 Organic peroxides - most will burn rapidly and are sensitive to impact or friction.



CLASS 6 - Toxic and infectious Substances

- 6.1 Toxic substances
- 6.2 Infectious substances



CLASS 7 - Radioactive Substances

Any quantity of packages bearing the RADIOACTIVE YELLOW III label (LSA-III). Some radioactive materials in "exclusive use" with low specific activity radioactive materials will not bear the label, however, the RADIOACTIVE placard is required.



CLASS 8 - Corrosives

For the purpose of this subchapter "corrosive materials" (Class 8) means a liquid or solid that causes full thickness destruction of human skin at the site of contact within a specified period of time. A liquid that has a severe corrosion rate on steel or aluminum is also a corrosive material.



CLASS 9

Miscellaneous dangerous substances and articles (Marine pollutants which are not of an otherwise dangerous nature are listed in class 9)

A material which presents a hazard during transportation but which does not meet the definition of any other hazard class. This class includes:

- 1. Any material which has an anesthetic, noxious or other similar property which could cause extreme annoyance or discomfort to a flight crew member so as to prevent the correct performance of assigned duties; or
- 2. Any material for an elevated temperature material, a hazardous substance, a hazardous waste, or a marine pollutant.