

FACT SHEET 01/94

February 1994

EXPORTING HAZARDOUS CARGO

Exporters of hazardous substances should be aware that regulations apply for the carriage of dangerous goods by sea. These regulations ensure the safety of those involved in the transport and the general community.

The following suggestions are offered to assist exporters in complying with the regulations. They should not be taken as a substitute for full familiarity with the regulations themselves.

- Advise the exact nature of the goods to be shipped to shipping company booking clerk at the time of booking.

The shipping line needs to know the correct technical name and UN Number. Brand names and household names are not to be used.

- Hazardous cargo will be classified in the international Dangerous Goods Code (the IMDG Code) and have a United Nations Number (UN Number).

The IMDG class determines the type of packaging and labels required on the packages and containers.

- Ensure that the packaging of the cargo is correctly labelled.
- Provide the land transport carrier (road or rail) with the correct dangerous goods documentation and Emergency Procedure Guide (EPG).

Guides can be purchased from the Standards Association of Australia or from private companies specialising in this field.

- For LCL shipments, part complete the Dangerous Goods Declaration (MO41/1 and MO41/2) and fax a copy to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) and the shipping line.

The original of the form must accompany the goods, with the appropriate EPG, to the packing depot, where the form will be completed. The document, and the EPG, must then travel with the container to the terminal.

Copies of the MO41/1 and MO41/2 are available from offices of AMSA.

- For FCL and breakbulk shipments, complete the same form and sign as shipper and packer. Fax a copy to AMSA and the shipping line, and ensure that the document travels with the cargo to the terminal or wharf.
- The shipper must ensure that the appropriate four dangerous goods labels are affixed to the container or breakbulk item on all four sides, no less than 1.75m above the base.
- For bulk dangerous cargo, Emergency Information Panels must be affixed to the tank to comply with road and rail regulations.

HEAVY PENALTIES APPLY FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REGULATIONS.

IF IN DOUBT AS TO YOUR OBLIGATIONS, CONTACT THE AUSTRALIAN MARITIME SAFETY AUTHORITY.

* * * * *

The Australian Chamber of Shipping Ltd and its employees and agents take no responsibility for any inaccuracies or omissions in this publication. The opinions expressed are those of the contributors and not of the Chamber. No warranty is given and no liability is accepted.

* * * * *

Published by the Australian Chamber of Shipping Ltd
Level 5, 6 Underwood Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000. ACN 002 950 870