

Subject: The latest update to the IMDG Code (Amendment 39-18)

Application:

The latest update to the IMDG Code (Amendment 39-18) published by the International Maritime Organization and compliance was optional from 1 January 2019 and will be mandatory on 1 January 2020.





Descriptions & requirements for ships:

Amendment 39-18 of the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code) contains multiple changes. The majority of those changes are meant to harmonize the IMDG Code with the 20th edition of the UN Model Regulations. A summary of the key changes to the IMDG Code are listed in the below, (<u>underlined paragraphs identify the biggest changes</u>). Please note that throughout the document, the word "risk(s)" has been replaced by the word "hazard(s)".

PART 1–GENERAL PROVISIONS, DEFINITIONS AND TRAINING

- Updated definitions in 1.2.1, plus new definition for IMO type 9 Tank
- Addition of a note regarding additional security provisions that may be required by competent authorities, for reasons other than the safety of dangerous goods in transport

PART 2–CLASSIFICATION

- New provision 2.0.4.3 for the transport of samples of energetic materials for testing purposes (allows the use of UN3223, SELF-REACTIVE LIQUID, TYPE C, and UN3224, SELF-REACTIVE SOLID, TYPE C, for transport if conditions are met)
- New section 2.0.6 for the transport and classification of articles containing dangerous goods; introduction of UN3537 to UN3548
- Revision of the provisions for assigning divisions for fireworks, now refers to "flash composition"
- Revision to exemption provisions for viscous liquids

Page 1 of 3

- New note for polymerizing substances and assignment of special provision 386
- Entirely new chapter 2.8 which also allows alternative methods (stepwise approach, using bridging principles or calculation method) for assignment of packing groups to mixtures of corrosives substances (partially aligns with GHS)
- Introduction of UN3536, LITHIUM BATTERIES INSTALLED IN CARGO TRANSPORT UNIT, and UN3548, ARTICLES CONTAINING MISCELLANEOUS DANGEROUS GOODS, N.O.S., to the list of substances and articles of Class 9
- Introduction of the availability requirement of the test summary specified in the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria for lithium batteries

PART 3-DANGEROUS GOODS LIST, SPECIAL PROVISIONS AND EXCEPTIONS

- Additional guidance on choosing most appropriate proper shipping name when more than one listed for a UN#
- Addition in the DGL of UN3535, TOXIC SOLID, FLAMMABLE, N.O.S., UN3526, LITHIUM BATTERIS INSTALLED IN CARGO TRANPORTS UNIT, and UN3537 to UN3548, for ARTICLES CONTAINING...
- Numerous changes and additions to the special provisions (SP) list and their assignment in column (6) of the DGL (includes guidance for vehicles, lithium batteries and articles containing dangerous goods)
 - New SP388 contains the amalgamated SPs that were previously assigned to UN3166 and UN3171
- Addition of stowage codes in column (16a) for many substances
- Addition of codes to identify the segregation groups listed in 3.1.4.4; addition of those codes to column (16B) of the Dangerous Goods List, or DGL

PART 4–PACKING AND TANK PROVISIONS

- Revisions to several "packing instructions" and special packing provisions
- Revision to packing instruction P902, <u>where it was clarified that unpackaged safety</u> <u>devices shipped in dedicated handling devices may be shipped "to, from, or between</u> <u>where they are manufactured and an assembly plant including intermediate handling</u> <u>locations</u>"
- Addition of P006 & LP03 (articles containing dangerous goods), P911 & LP906 (damaged and defective batteries), LP905 (production runs of not more than 100 Li batteries, and pre-production prototypes)
- Addition of definition of IMO type 9 tank in section 4.2.0, which refers to "road gas elements vehicles" for transport of gases of Class 2
- Section 4.2.6 to now also include provisions for the use of "road gas elements vehicles"

PART 5-CONSIGNMENT PROCEDURES

- Chapter 5.3 extended to cover bulk containers, now thus now entitled: "Placarding and marking of cargo transport units and bulk containers"
- Addition of a note in the general provisions re. GHS pictograms
- New provisions for marking and labelling packages of articles containing dangerous goods

- Updated provisions for hazard class labels when reducing, as well as updated label specimens and presentation
- Updated placarding requirements
- Updated requirements for stowage plans (documentation required aboard ship)

PART 6–CONSTRUCTION AND TESTING OF PACKAGINGS, INTERMEDIATE BULK CONTAINERS (IBCS), LARGE PACKAGINGS, PORTABLE TANKS, MULTIPLE -ELEMENT GAS CONTAINERS (MEGCS) AND ROAD TANK VEHICLES

- Mostly minor changes in Part 6
- Chapter 6.1 now includes provisions for the construction and testing of packaging's for Division 6.2 substances
- Updated standards and marking requirements
- Chapter 6.8 to now also include provision for "road gas elements vehicles"

PART 7–PROVISIONSCONCERNING TRANSPORT OPERATIONS

- New paragraph for storage, segregation and transport of JET PERFORATING GUNS, CHARGED, classified as UN0124 and UN0494, to or from offshore oil platforms, mobile offshore drilling units and other offshore installations
- Updated list of segregation groups includes new "segregation group codes", and amended list of "Segregation codes" to include them
- New table of "segregation exemptions" for some organic peroxides
- <u>Completely updated section 7.3.7 for "Cargo transport units under temperature control"</u>
- Chapter 7.9 revised with updated contact information for some competent authorities

For any questions about this Technical Information, please contact:

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