

PLACARDING OF INTERMODAL CONTAINERS FOR MARINE TRANSPORTATION

Are Placards Required?

Domestic Shipments 49 CFR

Is the product contained in the container listed in 49 CFR Part 172.101? OR

Does the product meet the definition of any Hazardous Material Definition listed in 49 CFR Part 173? AND

Is the product packaged in quantities greater than a “limited quantity” as described in 49 CFR Part 173?

If you answered yes to two or more of the above questions placarding is required unless specific exemptions apply. These exemptions are listed on the reverse side (1).

International Shipments Consigned under the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG)

Is the product contained in the container listed in the Dangerous Goods List of IMDG Part 3? OR

Does the product meet the definition of any Dangerous Good Class as defined in IMDG Part 2? AND

Is the product packaged in quantities greater than a “limited quantity” as described in IMDG Part 3?

If you answered yes to two or more of the above questions placarding is required.

What Placards Are Required?

A Primary Hazard Class Placard as indicated in column 3 of 49 CFR 172.101 table for each product that requires a placard. PLUS,

A Subsidiary Placard for products that in addition to their primary hazard class are:

- 1) Poison Inhalation Hazards or Poison Gases or liquids.
- 2) Dangerous When Wet.
- 3) Uranium Hexafluoride

A Primary Risk Indicator Placard for each product that requires a placard as indicated in column 3 of the Dangerous Goods List (DGL) in Volume 2 of the IMDG for that product. PLUS,

A Subsidiary Risk Indicator Placard for each subsidiary risk listed in column 4 of the DGL in the IMDG for that product

Can Placards Not Required Be Displayed?

Yes, as long as the placard accurately represents the hazard the product presents. For shipments by water, the container must display the new Limited Quantities Marking.

Products shipped in “Limited Quantities” can be placarded as long as the placard(s) accurately represents the hazmat risk(s) as indicated in the DGL. For shipments by water, the container must display the new Limited Quantities

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Is Text On Placards Required?

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NO, EXCEPT for the Class 7, the Oxygen and the 2.3 and 6.1 inhalation hazard placards. On all other placards it is optional. Numbers and Letter Codes may be required on the placard.

International Shipments or IMDG

NO, EXCEPT for Class 7 placards. On all other placards it is optional. Numbers and Letter Codes may be required on the placard.

When Can A Dangerous Placard Be Used?

Under limited circumstances, it may be used to indicate two or more hazardous materials are in a container. See 49 CFR 172.504 (b) before using this placard.

It is not authorized.

General Placard Information

Where are the specifications for placard designs found? They are found in 49 CFR 172.522 and in Part 5 of the IMDG code.

Can placards be reused? It is possible, if the means for attaching them to the container will withstand 30 days exposure to sea conditions and the placard conforms to visual specifications. The IMDG requires that the exposure limits are 90 days.

How many placards are required? Four placards are required per container, one on each vertical side. **Note:** Placarding & Marking requirements are also keyed to container size.

Is the Poison Inhalation Placard required in the U.S. or the Combustible Liquid Placard allowed to be used internationally? The PIH placards are required for class 2.3 and applicable 6.1 shipments moving domestically in the United States. These placard are not authorized for use under IMDG.

Aside from placards, are any other markings required on a container? Very possibly if the container or product in the container is or has been;

- A. Marine Pollutant (add the Marine Pollutant Symbol), or
- B. Carried in large quantity and is the only product in the container (add the UN number) or,
- C. Or is Fumigated (add a warning as specified in 49 CFR 173.9)

(1) Exemptions Authorized Under 49 CFR, But Not Internationally

The following products generally do not require placards when moved in the U.S. in accordance with 49 CFR 172.500: Infectious Substances, ORM-D materials, Small Quantities (see 49 CFR 173.4), Combustible materials in non-bulk packaging, Class 9 materials, Radioactive White 1 or Yellow II Shipments.