

SHIPPING PAPERS (DOCUMENTS)

For the purpose of this guidebook, shipping documents and shipping papers are synonymous. Shipping papers provide vital information regarding the hazardous materials/dangerous goods to initiate protective actions. A consolidated version of the information found on shipping papers may be found as follows:

- Road – kept in the cab of a motor vehicle
- Rail – kept in possession of a crew member
- Aviation – kept in possession of the pilot or aircraft employees
- Marine – kept in a holder on the bridge of a vessel

Information provided:

- 4-digit identification number, UN or NA (go to yellow pages)
- Proper shipping name (go to blue pages)
- Hazard class or division number of material
- Packing group
- Emergency response telephone number
- Information describing the hazards of the material (entered on or attached to the shipping paper)*

EMERGENCY CONTACT 1-000-000-0000		EXAMPLE OF EMERGENCY CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER	
CONTRACT #: XX-XXXX-X **		HAZARD CLASS OR DIVISION NO.	
		QUANTITY	NO. & TYPE OF PACKAGES
UN1219	ISOPROPANOL	3 II	12 000 LITERS
		1 TANKTRUCK	
ID NUMBER	SHIPPING NAME	PACKING GROUP	

EXAMPLE OF PLACARD AND PANEL WITH ID NUMBER

The 4-digit ID Number may be shown on the diamond-shaped placard or on an adjacent orange panel displayed on the ends and sides of a cargo tank, vehicle or rail car.



A Numbered
Placard

OR

A Placard
and an
Orange Panel



1219

* In the United States, this requirement may be satisfied by attaching a guide from the ERG2020 to the shipping paper, or by having the entire guidebook available for reference.

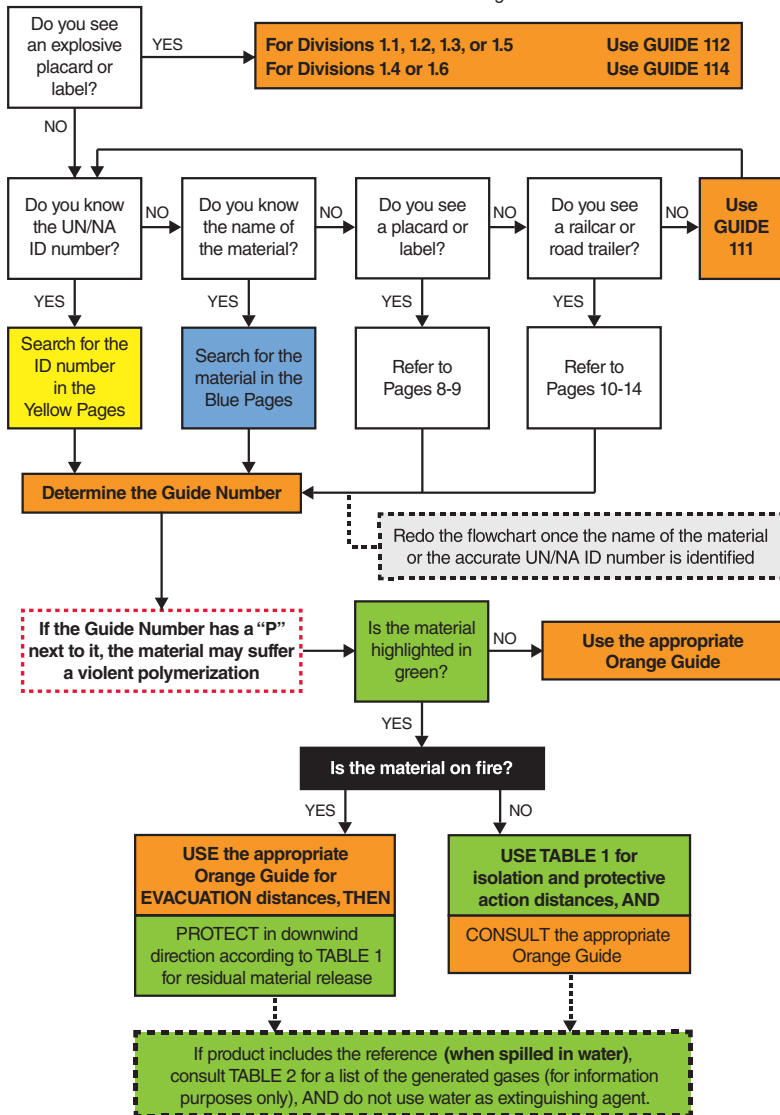
** In the United States, a registration or contract number may be required on a shipping paper.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDEBOOK

RESIST RUSHING IN!

**APPROACH INCIDENT FROM UPWIND, AND UPHILL AND/OR UPSTREAM
STAY CLEAR OF ALL SPILLS, VAPORS, FUMES, SMOKE, AND POTENTIAL HAZARDS**

WARNING: DO NOT USE THIS FLOWCHART if more than one hazardous material/dangerous good is involved. Immediately call the appropriate emergency response agency telephone number listed on the inside back cover of this guidebook.



BEFORE AN EMERGENCY - BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THIS GUIDEBOOK!

First responders must be trained in the use of this guidebook.

LOCAL EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Please populate this page with emergency telephone numbers
for local assistance:

HAZMAT CONTRACTORS

RAIL COMPANIES

FEDERAL/STATE/PROVINCIAL AGENCIES

OTHERS

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SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

RESIST RUSHING IN!

APPROACH CAUTIOUSLY FROM *UPWIND, UPHILL AND/OR UPSTREAM*:

- Stay clear of ***Vapor, Fumes, Smoke and Spills***.
- Keep vehicle at a safe distance from the scene.

SECURE THE SCENE:

- Isolate the area and protect yourself and others.

IDENTIFY THE HAZARDS USING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Placards
- Container labels
- Shipping papers
- Rail Car and Road Trailer Identification Chart
- Safety Data Sheets (SDS)
- Knowledge of persons on scene
- Consult applicable guide page

ASSESS THE SITUATION:

- Is there a fire, a spill or a leak?
- What are the weather conditions?
- What is the terrain like?
- Who/what is at risk: people, property or the environment?
- What actions should be taken – evacuation, shelter-in-place or dike?
- What resources (human and equipment) are required?
- What can be done immediately?

OBTAIN HELP:

- Advise your headquarters to notify responsible agencies and call for assistance from qualified personnel.

RESPOND:

- Enter only when wearing appropriate protective gear.
- Rescue attempts and protecting property must be weighed against you becoming part of the problem.
- Establish a command post and lines of communication.
- Continually reassess the situation and modify response accordingly.
- Consider safety of people in the immediate area first, including your own safety.

ABOVE ALL: Do not assume that gases or vapors are harmless because of lack of a smell – odorless gases or vapors may be harmful. Use **CAUTION** when handling empty containers because they may still present hazards until they are cleaned and purged of all residues.

NOTIFICATION AND REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Follow the steps outlined in your organization's standard operating procedures and/or local emergency response plan for obtaining qualified assistance. Generally, the notification sequence and requests for technical information beyond what is available in this guidebook should occur in the following order:

1. NOTIFY YOUR ORGANIZATION/AGENCY:

- Based on information provided, this will set in motion a series of events. Actions may range from dispatching additional trained personnel to the scene, to activating the local emergency response plan.
- Ensure that local fire and police departments have been notified.

2. CALL THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TELEPHONE NUMBER ON THE SHIPPING PAPER

- If shipping paper is not available, use guidance under next section **"NATIONAL ASSISTANCE"**.

3. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE

- Contact the appropriate emergency response agency listed on the inside back cover of this guidebook.
- Provide as much information about the hazardous material/dangerous good and the nature of the incident.
- The agency will provide immediate advice on handling the early stages of the incident.
- The agency will also contact the shipper or manufacturer of the material for more detailed information if necessary.
- The agency will request on-scene assistance when necessary.

4. PROVIDE AS MUCH OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE:

- Your name, call-back telephone number, fax number
- Location and nature of problem (spill, fire, etc.)
- Name and identification number of material(s) involved
- Shipper/consignee/point-of-origin
- Carrier name, rail car or truck number
- Container type and size
- Quantity of material transported/released
- Local conditions (weather, terrain)
- Proximity to schools, hospitals, waterways, etc.
- Injuries and exposures
- Local emergency services that have been notified

HAZARD CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

The hazard class of hazardous materials/dangerous goods is indicated either by its class (or division) number or name. Placards are used to identify the class or division of a material. The hazard class or division number must be displayed in the lower corner of a placard and is required for both primary and subsidiary hazard classes and divisions, if applicable. For other than Class 7 placards, text indicating a hazard (for example, "CORROSIVE") is not required. Text is shown only in the U.S. The hazard class or division number and subsidiary hazard classes or division numbers placed in parentheses (when applicable), must appear on the shipping paper after each proper shipping name.

Class 1 - Explosives

Division 1.1	Explosives which have a mass explosion hazard
Division 1.2	Explosives which have a projection hazard but not a mass explosion hazard
Division 1.3	Explosives which have a fire hazard and either a minor blast hazard or a minor projection hazard or both, but not a mass explosion hazard
Division 1.4	Explosives which present no significant hazard
Division 1.5	Very insensitive explosives with a mass explosion hazard
Division 1.6	Extremely insensitive articles which do not have a mass explosion hazard

Class 2 - Gases

Division 2.1	Flammable gases
Division 2.2	Non-flammable, non-toxic* gases
Division 2.3	Toxic* gases

Class 3 - Flammable liquids (and Combustible liquids [U.S.])

Class 4 - Flammable solids; Substances liable to spontaneous combustion; Substances which, on contact with water, emit flammable gases

Division 4.1	Flammable solids, self-reactive substances and solid desensitized explosives
Division 4.2	Substances liable to spontaneous combustion
Division 4.3	Substances which in contact with water emit flammable gases

Class 5 - Oxidizing substances and Organic peroxides

Division 5.1	Oxidizing substances
Division 5.2	Organic peroxides

Class 6 - Toxic* substances and Infectious substances

Division 6.1	Toxic* substances
Division 6.2	Infectious substances

Class 7 - Radioactive materials

Class 8 - Corrosive substances

Class 9 - Miscellaneous hazardous materials/dangerous goods and articles

* The words "poison" or "poisonous" are synonymous with the word "toxic".

INTRODUCTION TO THE TABLE OF MARKINGS, LABELS AND PLACARDS

USE THIS TABLE ONLY WHEN THE ID NUMBER OR PROPER SHIPPING NAME IS NOT AVAILABLE.

The next two pages display the placards used on transport vehicles carrying hazardous materials/dangerous goods with the applicable reference GUIDE circled. Follow these steps:

1. **Approach scene from upwind, uphill and/or upstream at a safe distance to safely identify and/or read the placard or orange panel. Use binoculars if available.**
2. **Match the vehicle placard(s) with one of the placards displayed on the next two pages.**
3. **Consult the circled guide number associated with the placard. Use that guide information for now. For example:**

- Use GUIDE **127** for a FLAMMABLE (Class 3) placard



- Use GUIDE **153** for a CORROSIVE (Class 8) placard



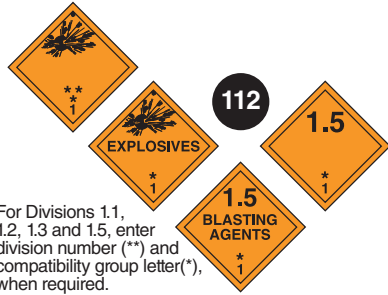
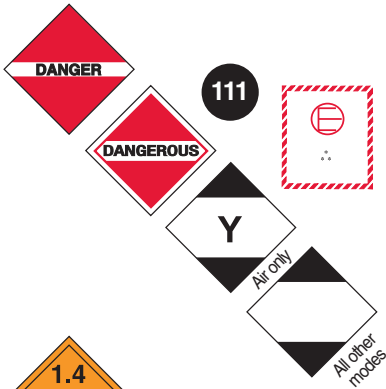
- Use GUIDE **111** when the DANGER or DANGEROUS placard is displayed or the nature of the spilled, leaking or burning material is not known. Also use this GUIDE when the presence of hazardous materials/dangerous goods is suspected but no placards can be seen.

If multiple placards point to more than one guide, initially use the most conservative guide (i.e., the guide requiring the greatest degree of protective actions).

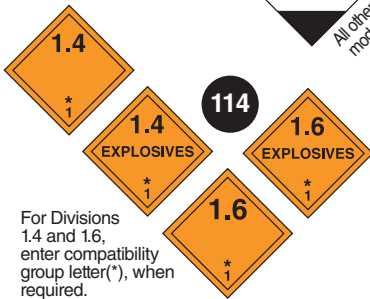
4. **Guides associated with the placards provide the most significant risk and/or hazard information.**
5. **When specific information, such as ID number or proper shipping name, becomes available, the more specific Guide recommended for that material must be consulted.**
6. **A single asterisk (*) on orange placards represents an explosive's compatibility group letter. The asterisk must be replaced with the appropriate compatibility group letter. Refer to the Glossary (page 375).**
7. **Double asterisks (**) on orange placards represent the division of the explosive. The double asterisks must be replaced with the appropriate division number.**

TABLE OF MARKINGS, LABELS, AND PLACARDS

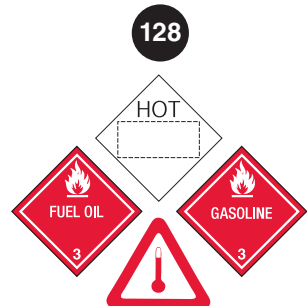
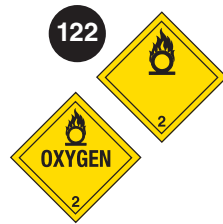
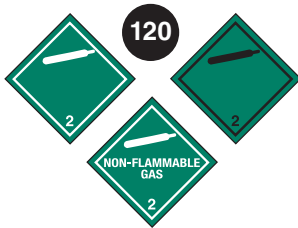
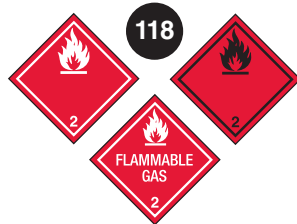
USE THIS TABLE ONLY IF MATERIALS CANNOT BE SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFIED BY



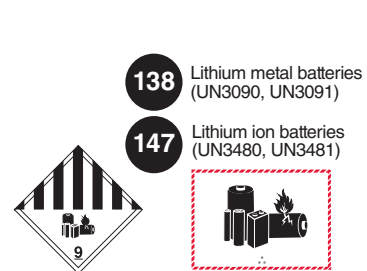
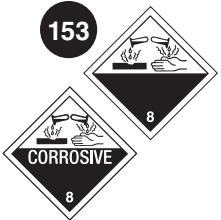
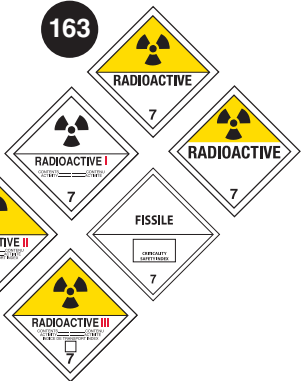
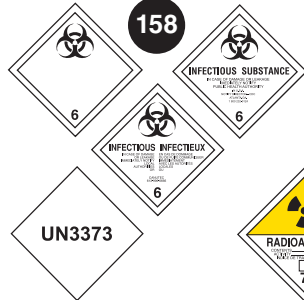
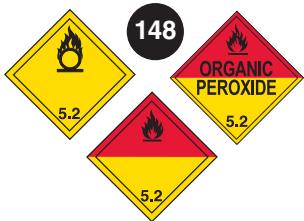
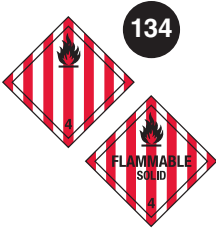
For Divisions 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.5, enter division number (**) and compatibility group letter(*), when required.



For Divisions 1.4 and 1.6, enter compatibility group letter(*), when required.



AND INITIAL RESPONSE GUIDE TO USE ON-SCENE
USING THE SHIPPING PAPER, NUMBERED PLACARD, OR ORANGE PANEL NUMBER



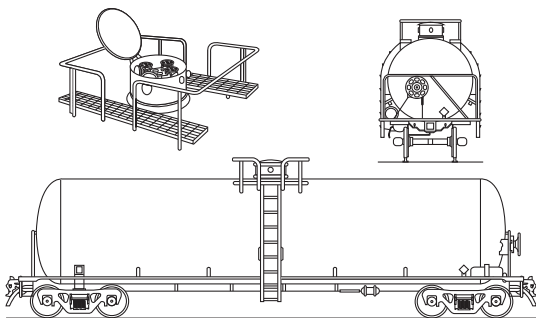
RAIL CAR IDENTIFICATION CHART

CAUTION: Emergency response personnel must be aware that rail tank cars vary widely in construction, fittings and purpose. Tank cars could transport products that may be solids, liquids or gases. The products may be under pressure. It is essential that products be identified by consulting shipping papers or train consist or contacting dispatch centers before emergency response is initiated. The information stenciled on the sides or ends of tank cars, as illustrated below, may be used to identify the product utilizing:

- a. the commodity name shown;
- b. the other information shown, especially reporting marks and car number which, when supplied to a dispatch center, will facilitate the identification of the product.

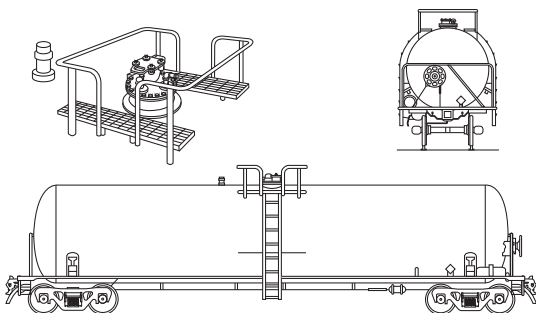
The recommended guides should be considered as last resort if the material cannot be identified by any other means.

117 Pressure tank car



- For flammable, non-flammable, toxic and/or liquefied compressed gases
- Protective housing
- No bottom fittings
- Pressures usually above 40 psi

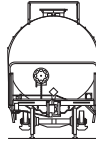
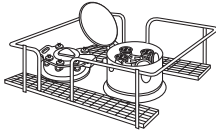
131 Non-pressure / low pressure tank car



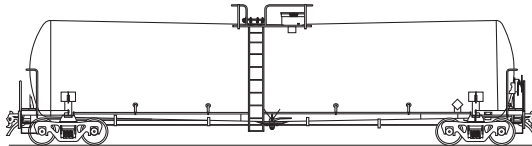
- Known as **general service tank car**
- For variety of hazardous and non-hazardous materials
- Fittings and valves normally visible at the top of the tank
- Some may have bottom outlet valve
- Pressures usually below 25 psi

RAIL CAR IDENTIFICATION CHART

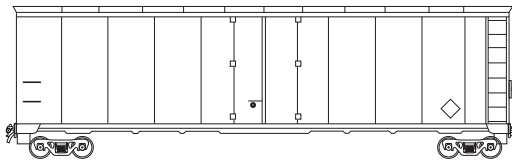
128 Non-pressure / low pressure tank car (TC117, DOT117)



- For flammable liquids (e.g., Petroleum crude oil, ethanol)
- Protective housing separate from manway
- Bottom outlet valve
- Pressures usually below 25 psi

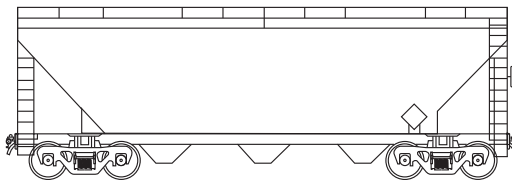


111 Box car



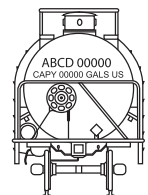
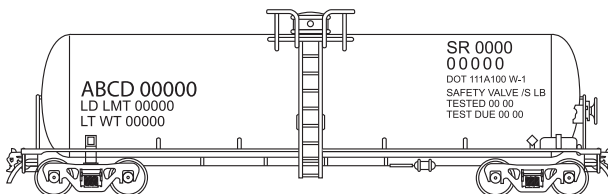
- For general freight that carry bulk or non-bulk packages
- May transport hazardous materials/dangerous goods in small packages or "tote bins"
- Single or double sliding door

140 Hopper car



- For bulk commodities and bulk cargo (e.g., coal, ore, cement and solid granular materials)
- Bulk lading discharged by gravity through the hopper bottom doors when doors opened

COMMON MARKINGS ON RAIL CARS: reporting marks and car number, load limit (pounds or kilograms), empty weight of car, placard, tank qualification and pressure relief device information, car specification, and commodity name.



ROAD TRAILER IDENTIFICATION CHART

CAUTION: This chart depicts only the most general shapes of road trailers and cargo transport units. Emergency response personnel must be aware that there are many variations of road trailers, not illustrated below, that are used for shipping chemical products. Many intermodal tanks that transport liquids, solids, liquefied compressed gases, and refrigerated liquefied gases have similar silhouettes. The suggested guides are for the most hazardous products that may be transported in these trailer types.

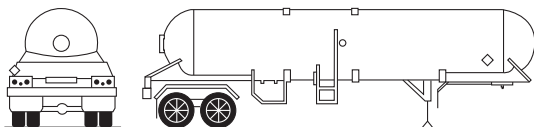
WARNING: Road trailers may be jacketed, the cross-section may look different than shown and external ring stiffeners would be invisible.

NOTE: An emergency shut-off valve is commonly found at the front of the tank, near the driver door.

The recommended guides should be considered as last resort if the material cannot be identified by any other means.

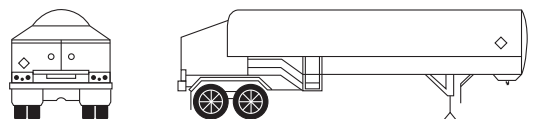
MAWP: Maximum Allowable Working Pressure.

117 MC331, TC331, SCT331



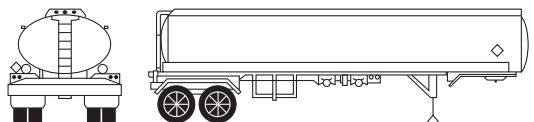
- For liquefied compressed gases (e.g., LPG, ammonia)
- Rounded heads
- Design pressure between 100-500 psi

117 MC338, TC338, SCT338, TC341, CGA341



- For refrigerated liquefied gases (cryogenic liquids)
- Similar to a "giant thermo-bottle"
- Fitting compartments located in a cabinet at the rear of the tank
- MAWP between 25-500 psi

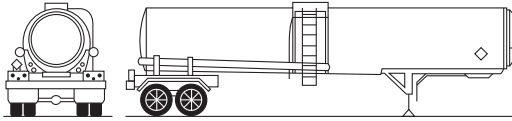
131 DOT406, TC406, SCT306, MC306, TC306



- For flammable liquids (e.g., gasoline, diesel)
- Elliptical cross-section
- Rollover protection at the top
- Bottom outlet valves
- MAWP between 3-15 psi

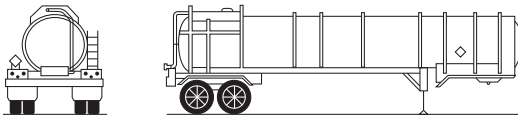
ROAD TRAILER IDENTIFICATION CHART

137 DOT407, TC407, SCT307, MC307, TC307



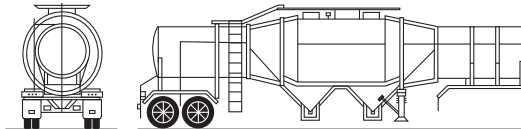
- For toxic, corrosive, and flammable liquids
- Circular cross-section
- May have external ring stiffeners
- MAWP of at least 25 psi

137 DOT412, TC412, SCT312, MC312, TC312



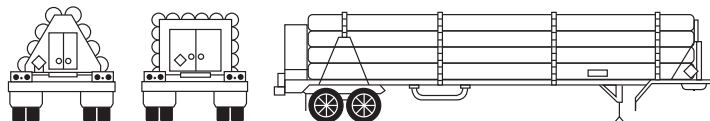
- Usually for corrosive liquids
- Circular cross-section
- External ring stiffeners
- Tank diameter is relatively small
- MAWP of at least 15 psi

112 TC423



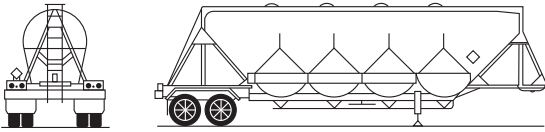
- For emulsion and water-gel explosives
- Hopper-style configuration
- MAWP between 5-15 psi

117 Compressed Gas/Tube Trailer

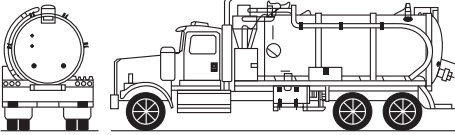


ROAD TRAILER IDENTIFICATION CHART

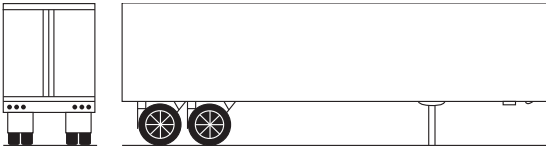
134 Dry Bulk Cargo Trailer



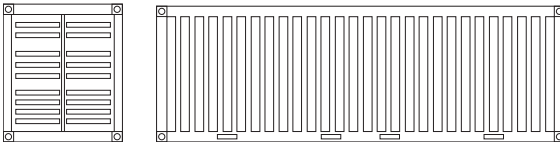
137 Vacuum Tanker



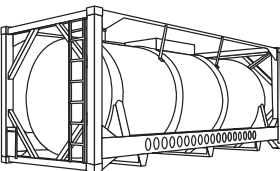
111 Mixed Cargo



111 Intermodal Freight Container



117 Intermodal Tank



NOTES

GLOBALY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELING OF CHEMICALS (GHS)

(May be found on means of containment during transport)

The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) is an international guideline published by the United Nations. The GHS aims to harmonize the classification and labeling systems for all sectors involved in the life cycle of a chemical (production, storage, transport, workplace use, consumer use and presence in the environment).

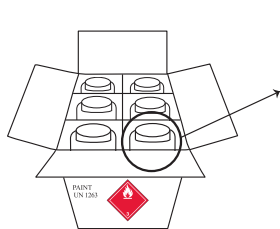
The GHS has nine symbols used to convey specific physical, health and environmental hazard information. These symbols are part of a pictogram that is diamond shaped and includes the GHS symbol in black on a white background with a red frame. The pictogram is part of the GHS label, which also includes the following information:

- **Signal word**
- **Hazard statement**
- **Precautionary statements**
- **Product identifier**
- **Supplier identification**

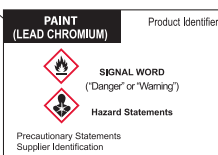
GHS pictograms are similar in shape to transport labels; however, transport labels have backgrounds of different colors.

The elements of the GHS that address signal words and hazard statements are not expected to be adopted in the transport sector. For substances and mixtures covered by the UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations, the transport labels for physical hazards will have precedence. In transport, a GHS pictogram for the same (or lesser) hazard as the one reflected by the transport label or placard should not be present, but it could exist on the package.

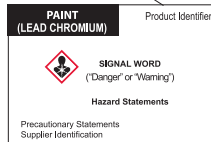
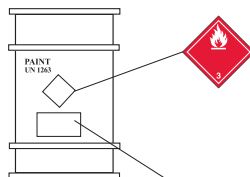
Examples of GHS labeling:



Outer Packaging: Box with flammable liquid transport label













Inner Packaging: Plastic bottle with GHS hazard warning label



Single Packaging: 200 L (55 US gallons) drum with a flammable liquid transport label combined with GHS hazard warning label

In some cases, such as on drums or international bulk containers (IBCs), which must address information for all sectors, the GHS label may be found in addition to the required transport labels and placards. Both types of labels (GHS and transport) will differ in a way that will make them easy to identify during an emergency.

GHS Pictograms	Physical hazards	GHS Pictograms	Health and Environmental hazards
	Explosive; Self-reactive; Organic peroxide		Skin corrosion; Serious eye damage
	Flammable; Pyrophoric; Self-reactive; Organic peroxide; Self-heating; Emits flammable gases when in contact with water		Acute toxicity (harmful); Skin sensitizer; Irritant (skin and eye); Narcotic effect; Respiratory tract irritant; Hazardous to ozone layer (environment)
	Oxidizer		Respiratory sensitizer; Mutagen; Carcinogen; Reproductive toxicity; Target organ toxicity; Aspiration hazard
	Gas under pressure		Hazardous to aquatic environment
	Corrosive to metals		Acute toxicity (fatal or toxic)

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS **DISPLAYED ON SOME INTERMODAL CONTAINERS**

Hazard identification numbers, utilized under European and some South American regulations, may be found in the top half of an orange panel on some intermodal bulk containers. The 4-digit ID number is in the bottom half of the orange panel.



The hazard identification number in the top half of the orange panel consists of two or three digits. In general, the digits indicate the following hazards:

- 2 - Emission of gas due to pressure or chemical reaction
- 3 - Flammability of liquids (vapors) and gases or self-heating liquid
- 4 - Flammability of solids or self-heating solid
- 5 - Oxidizing (fire-intensifying) effect
- 6 - Toxicity or risk of infection
- 7 - Radioactivity
- 8 - Corrosivity
- 9 - Risk of spontaneous violent reaction

NOTE: The risk of spontaneous violent reaction within the meaning of digit 9 includes the possibility, due to the nature of a substance, of a risk of explosion, disintegration and polymerization reaction followed by the release of considerable heat or flammable and/or toxic gases.

- Doubling of a digit indicates an intensification of that particular hazard (i.e., 33, 66, 88).
- Where the hazard associated with a substance can be adequately indicated by a single digit, the digit is followed by a zero (i.e., 30, 40, 50).
- A hazard identification number prefixed by the letter "X" indicates that the substance will react dangerously with water (i.e., X88).

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS **DISPLAYED ON SOME INTERMODAL CONTAINERS**

The hazard identification numbers listed below have the following meanings:

20	Asphyxiant gas or gas with no subsidiary hazard
22	Refrigerated liquefied gas, asphyxiant
223	Refrigerated liquefied gas, flammable
225	Refrigerated liquefied gas, oxidizing (fire-intensifying)
23	Flammable gas
238	Gas, flammable corrosive
239	Flammable gas which can spontaneously lead to violent reaction
25	Oxidizing (fire-intensifying) gas
26	Toxic gas
263	Toxic gas, flammable
265	Toxic gas, oxidizing (fire-intensifying)
268	Toxic gas, corrosive
28	Gas, corrosive
<hr/>	
30	Flammable liquid (flash-point between 23°C and 60°C, inclusive), or flammable liquid or solid in the molten state with a flash-point above 60°C, heated to a temperature equal to or above its flash point, or self-heating liquid
323	Flammable liquid which reacts with water, emitting flammable gases
X323	Flammable liquid which reacts dangerously with water, emitting flammable gases
33	Highly flammable liquid (flash-point below 23°C)
333	Pyrophoric liquid
X333	Pyrophoric liquid which reacts dangerously with water
336	Highly flammable liquid, toxic
338	Highly flammable liquid, corrosive
X338	Highly flammable liquid, corrosive, which reacts dangerously with water
339	Highly flammable liquid which can spontaneously lead to violent reaction
36	Flammable liquid (flash-point between 23°C and 60°C, inclusive), slightly toxic, or self-heating liquid, toxic
362	Flammable liquid, toxic, which reacts with water, emitting flammable gas
X362	Flammable liquid, toxic, which reacts dangerously with water, emitting flammable gases
368	Flammable liquid, toxic, corrosive
38	Flammable liquid (flash-point between 23°C and 60°C, inclusive), slightly corrosive or self-heating liquid, corrosive
382	Flammable liquid, corrosive, which reacts with water, emitting flammable gases
X382	Flammable liquid, corrosive, which reacts dangerously with water, emitting flammable gases
39	Flammable liquid, which can spontaneously lead to violent reaction
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40	Flammable solid, or self-reactive substance, or self-heating substance, or polymerizing substance

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS
DISPLAYED ON SOME INTERMODAL CONTAINERS

423	Solid which reacts with water, emitting flammable gases, or flammable solid which reacts with water, emitting flammable gases, or self-heating solid which reacts with water, emitting flammable gases
X423	Solid which reacts dangerously with water, emitting flammable gases, or flammable solid which reacts dangerously with water, emitting flammable gases, or self-heating solid which reacts dangerously with water, emitting flammable gases
43	Spontaneously flammable (pyrophoric) solid
X432	Spontaneously flammable (pyrophoric) solid which reacts dangerously with water, emitting flammable gases
44	Flammable solid, in the molten state at an elevated temperature
446	Flammable solid, toxic, in the molten state at an elevated temperature
46	Flammable or self-heating solid, toxic
462	Toxic solid which reacts with water, emitting flammable gases
X462	Solid which reacts dangerously with water, emitting toxic gases
48	Flammable or self-heating solid, corrosive
482	Corrosive solid which reacts with water, emitting flammable gases
X482	Solid which reacts dangerously with water, emitting corrosive gases
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50	Oxidizing (fire-intensifying) substance
539	Flammable organic peroxide
55	Strongly oxidizing (fire-intensifying) substance
556	Strongly oxidizing (fire-intensifying) substance, toxic
558	Strongly oxidizing (fire-intensifying) substance, corrosive
559	Strongly oxidizing (fire-intensifying) substance which can spontaneously lead to violent reaction
56	Oxidizing substance (fire-intensifying), toxic
568	Oxidizing substance (fire-intensifying), toxic, corrosive
58	Oxidizing substance (fire-intensifying), corrosive
59	Oxidizing substance (fire-intensifying), which can spontaneously lead to violent reaction
<hr/>	
60	Toxic or slightly toxic substance
606	Infectious substance
623	Toxic liquid, which reacts with water, emitting flammable gases
63	Toxic substance, flammable (flash-point between 23°C and 60°C, inclusive)
638	Toxic substance, flammable, (flash-point between 23°C and 60°C, inclusive), corrosive
639	Toxic substance, flammable, (flash-point not above 60°C) which can spontaneously lead to violent reaction
64	Toxic solid, flammable or self-heating
642	Toxic solid which reacts with water, emitting flammable gases
65	Toxic substance, oxidizing (fire-intensifying)
66	Highly toxic substance

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS
DISPLAYED ON SOME INTERMODAL CONTAINERS

663	Highly toxic substance, flammable (flash-point not above 60°C)
664	Highly toxic solid, flammable or self-heating
665	Highly toxic substance, oxidizing (fire-intensifying)
668	Highly toxic substance, corrosive
X668	Highly toxic substance, corrosive, which reacts dangerously with water
669	Highly toxic substance which can spontaneously lead to violent reaction
68	Toxic substance, corrosive
69	Toxic or slightly toxic substance which can spontaneously lead to violent reaction
70	Radioactive material
768	Radioactive material, toxic, corrosive
78	Radioactive material, corrosive
80	Corrosive or slightly corrosive substance
X80	Corrosive or slightly corrosive substance which reacts dangerously with water
823	Corrosive liquid which reacts with water, emitting flammable gases
83	Corrosive or slightly corrosive substance, flammable (flash-point between 23°C and 60°C, inclusive)
X83	Corrosive or slightly corrosive substance, flammable (flash-point between 23°C and 60°C, inclusive), which reacts dangerously with water
839	Corrosive or slightly corrosive substance, flammable (flash-point between 23°C and 60°C, inclusive), which can spontaneously lead to violent reaction
X839	Corrosive or slightly corrosive substance, flammable (flash-point between 23°C and 60°C, inclusive), which can spontaneously lead to violent reaction and which reacts dangerously with water
84	Corrosive solid, flammable or self-heating
842	Corrosive solid which reacts with water, emitting flammable gases
85	Corrosive or slightly corrosive substance, oxidizing (fire-intensifying)
856	Corrosive or slightly corrosive substance, oxidizing (fire-intensifying) and toxic
86	Corrosive or slightly corrosive substance, toxic
88	Highly corrosive substance
X88	Highly corrosive substance which reacts dangerously with water
883	Highly corrosive substance, flammable (flash-point between 23°C and 60°C, inclusive)
884	Highly corrosive solid, flammable or self-heating
885	Highly corrosive substance, oxidizing (fire-intensifying)
886	Highly corrosive substance, toxic
X886	Highly corrosive substance, toxic, which reacts dangerously with water
89	Corrosive or slightly corrosive substance which can spontaneously lead to violent reaction
90	Environmentally hazardous substance; miscellaneous dangerous substances
99	Miscellaneous dangerous substance carried at an elevated temperature

PIPELINE TRANSPORTATION

In North America, hazardous materials/dangerous goods are commonly transported through millions of miles of pipelines and related structures. Products transported include natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, gasoline, diesel fuel, anhydrous ammonia, carbon dioxide, jet fuel, and other commodities. Although most pipelines are buried, often there are aboveground structures and markers indicating the presence of pipelines. First responders should be aware of the pipelines in their jurisdictions, the products they transport, and the operators responsible for those pipelines. Proactive relationships can be beneficial in the safe and effective management of pipeline emergencies.

Types of Pipelines

Natural Gas Pipelines

Natural Gas Transmission Pipelines

Large-diameter, steel pipelines transport flammable natural gas (toxic and non-toxic) at very high pressures ranging from 200 to 1,500 psi*. Natural gas in transmission pipelines is odorless — generally *not odorized* with mercaptan (the “rotten egg” smell); however, natural gas containing hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) will have a distinct “rotten egg” odor.

Natural Gas Distribution Pipelines

Natural gas is delivered directly to customers via distribution pipelines. These pipelines are typically smaller-diameter, lower-pressure pipelines constructed of steel, plastic, or cast iron. Natural gas in distribution pipelines *is odorized* with mercaptan (the “rotten egg” smell).

Natural Gas-Gathering and Natural Gas Well Production Pipelines

Natural gas-gathering/well production pipelines collect “raw” natural gas from wellheads and transport the product to gas-processing and/or gas-treating plants. These gathering pipelines carry natural gas mixed with some quantity of natural gas liquids, water, and, in some areas, contaminants such as toxic hydrogen sulfide (H₂S). Natural gas in these pipelines is *not odorized* with mercaptan (the “rotten egg” smell); however, natural gas that contains hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) will have a distinct “rotten egg” odor.

Hazardous Liquid and Highly Volatile Liquid Pipelines

Hazardous Liquid Pipelines

Crude oil, refined petroleum products (e.g. gasoline, kerosene, jet fuel or diesel) and hazardous liquids (e.g. anhydrous ammonia or ethanol) are often transported by pipelines.

Many liquid petroleum pipelines transport different types of liquid petroleum in the same pipeline. To do so, the pipeline operator sends different products in “batches.” For example, an operator could send gasoline for several hours, and then switch to jet fuels, before switching to diesel fuel.

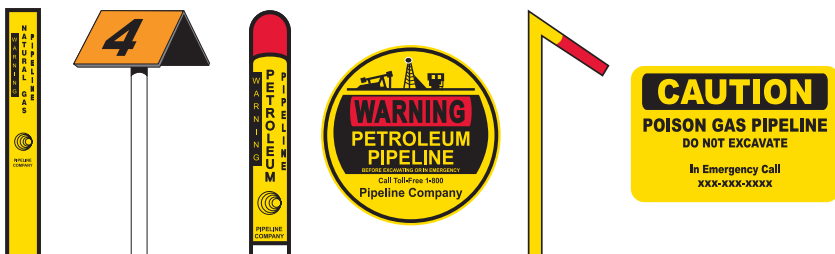
* Data from <http://naturalgas.org/naturalgas/transport/>

Highly Volatile Liquid (HVL) Pipelines

HVL pipelines transport hazardous liquids which will form a vapor cloud when released to the atmosphere and which have a vapor pressure exceeding 276 KPa (40 psia) at 37.8°C (100°F). An example of an HVL is liquid propane.

Pipeline Markers

Since pipelines are usually buried underground, pipeline markers are used to indicate their presence in an area along the pipeline route. Of the three types of pipelines typically buried underground — distribution, gathering, and transmission — only transmission pipelines are marked with the following above-ground markers used to indicate their route.



Markers warn that a transmission pipeline is located in the area, identify the product transported in the line, and provide the name and telephone number of the pipeline operator to call. Markers and warning signs are located at frequent intervals along natural gas and liquid transmission pipeline rights-of-way, and are located at prominent points such as where pipelines intersect streets, highways, railways, or waterways.

Pipeline markers only indicate the presence of a pipeline—they do not indicate the exact location of the pipeline. Pipeline locations within a right-of-way may vary along its length and there may be multiple pipelines located in the same right-of-way.

NOTE:

- Markers for pipelines transporting materials containing dangerous levels of hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) may have markers that say: “Sour” or “Poison.”
- Natural gas distribution pipelines are not marked with above-ground signs.
- Gathering/production pipelines are often not marked with above-ground signs.

Pipeline Structures (Above Ground)

Natural Gas Transmission Pipelines:	Compressor stations, valves, metering stations.
Natural Gas Distribution Pipelines:	Regulator stations, customer meters and regulators, valve box covers.
Natural Gas Gathering/Well Production Pipelines:	Compressor stations, valves, metering stations, wellheads, piping, manifolds.
Petroleum and Hazardous Liquids Pipelines:	Storage tanks, valves, pump stations, loading racks.

Indications of Pipeline Leaks and Ruptures

Pipeline releases can range from relatively minor leaks to catastrophic ruptures. It is important to remember that gases and liquids behave differently once they are released from a pipeline. Generally, the following could be indications of a pipeline leak or rupture:

- Hissing, roaring, or explosive sound
- Flames appearing from the ground or water (perhaps very large flames)
- Vapor cloud/fog/mist
- Dirt/debris/water blowing out of the ground
- Liquids bubbling up from the ground or bubbling in water
- Distinctive, unusually strong odor of rotten eggs, mercaptan (an odorant in some natural gas pipelines), skunk, or petroleum
- Discolored/dead vegetation or discolored snow above a pipeline right-of-way
- Oil slick or sheen on flowing/standing water
- An area of frozen ground in the summer
- An unusual area of melted snow in the winter

General Considerations for Responding to a Pipeline Emergency

- **Safety First!** Your safety and the safety of the community you protect is top priority. Remember to approach a pipeline incident from upwind, uphill, and upstream while using air monitoring equipment to detect for the presence of explosive and/or toxic levels of hazardous materials/dangerous goods.
 - Always wear proper personal protective equipment. Be prepared for a flash fire. Use shielding to protect first responders in the event of an explosion. Use respiratory protection.
 - Never operate pipeline valves (except in coordination with the pipeline operator); this could make the incident worse and put you and others in danger.
 - Never attempt to extinguish a pipeline fire before supply is shut off; this could result in the accumulation of a large flammable/explosive vapor cloud or liquid pool that could make the incident worse and put you and others in danger.
 - Do not walk or drive into a vapor cloud in an attempt to identify the product(s) involved.
 - Do not park over manholes or storm drains.
 - Do not approach the scene with vehicles or mechanical equipment until the isolation zones have been established (vehicles are a potential ignition source).
- **Secure the site** and determine a plan to evacuate or shelter-in-place. Work with other responders to deny entry to an area.
- **Identify the product and the operator.** If safe to do so, you may be able to identify the product based on its characteristics or other external clues. Look for pipeline markers indicating the product, operator of the pipeline, and their emergency contact information. Pipelines transport many different types of products, including gases, liquids, and highly volatile liquids that are in a liquid state inside the pipeline but in a gaseous state if released from the pipeline. The vapor density of gases determines if they rise or sink in air. Viscosity and specific gravity also are important characteristics of hazardous liquids to consider. Identification of the product also will help you determine the appropriate distance for isolation of the affected area.
- **Notify the pipeline operator** using the emergency contact information on the pipeline marker or other contact information you may have received from the pipeline operator. The pipeline operator will be a resource to you in the response.
- **Establish a command post.** Implement the Incident Command Structure, as needed, and be prepared to implement a Unified Command as additional stakeholders and resources arrive.

Other Important Considerations

- If no flames are present, do not introduce ignition sources such as open flames, running vehicles, or electrical equipment (cell phones, pagers, two-way radios, lights, garage door openers, fans, door bells, etc.).
- Abandon any equipment used in or near the area of the pipeline release.
- If there is no risk to your safety or the safety of others, move far enough away from any noise coming from the pipeline to allow for normal conversation.
- Pipelines often are close to other public utilities, railroads, and highways; these can be impacted by pipeline releases or may be potential ignition sources.
- Natural gas can migrate underground from the source of a release to other areas via the path of least resistance (including through sewers, water lines, and geologic formations).

Considerations for Establishing Protective Action Distances

- Type of product
 - If you know the material involved, identify the three-digit guide number by looking up the name in the alphabetical list (blue-bordered pages), then using the three-digit guide number, consult the recommendations in the assigned guide.
- Pressure and diameter of pipe (the pipeline operator can tell you this if you don't already know it)
- Timing of valve closure by the pipeline operator (quickly for automated valves; longer for manually operated valves)
- Dissipation time of the product in the pipeline once valves are closed
- Ability to conduct atmospheric monitoring and/or air sampling
- Weather (wind direction, etc.)
- Local variables such as topography, population density, demographics, and fire suppression methods available
- Nearby building construction material/density
- Natural and man-made barriers (such as highways, railroads, rivers, etc.)

U.S. Pipeline Resources

U.S. Pipeline Locations: The National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS) <https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov> indicates the general locations of hazardous liquids and natural gas transmission pipelines found within the U.S. The pipelines depicted in the NPMS are within 500 feet of their actual locations. Emergency responders may apply for an NPMS web viewer account that will allow access to more detailed information than is available to the general public. The NPMS does not contain gathering/production or natural gas distribution pipelines.

U.S. Pipeline Emergency Response Training: Where appropriate, reference pipeline emergencies training materials produced by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. Your state or jurisdiction also may provide training on how to handle the response to a pipeline incident.

Other Resources:

Pipeline Association for Public Awareness

<https://www.pipelineawareness.org/>

U.S. DOT, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

<https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/safety-awareness/pipeline/safety-awareness-overview>

Pipeline Emergency Responders Initiative (PERI)

<https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/pipeline/peri/pipeline-emergency-responders-initiative-peri>

Canadian Pipeline Resources

Canadian Pipeline Locations: The Canadian Energy Pipeline Association (CEPA) provides the general locations of natural gas and liquid pipelines found within Canada.

<https://www.cepa.com>