

Chapter 3.1

General

3.1.1 Introduction

In addition to the provisions referred to or given in the tables of this Part, the general requirements of each Part, Chapter and/or Section are to be observed. These general requirements are not given in the tables. When a general requirement is contradictory to a special provision, the special provision prevails.

3.1.2 Proper shipping name

NOTE: For proper shipping names used for the carriage of samples, see 2.1.4.1.

3.1.2.1 The proper shipping name is that portion of the entry most accurately describing the goods in Table A in Chapter 3.2, which is shown in upper case characters (plus any numbers, Greek letters, "sec", "tert", and the letters "m", "n", "o", "p", which form an integral part of the name). An alternative proper shipping name may be shown in brackets following the main proper shipping name [e.g., ETHANOL (ETHYL ALCOHOL)]. Portions of an entry appearing in lower case need not be considered as part of the proper shipping name.

3.1.2.2 When conjunctions such as "and" or "or" are in lower case or when segments of the name are punctuated by commas, the entire name of the entry need not necessarily be shown in the transport document or package markings. This is the case particularly when a combination of several distinct entries are listed under a single UN Number. Examples illustrating the selection of the proper shipping name for such entries are:

(a) UN 1057 LIGHTERS or LIGHTER REFILLS - The proper shipping name is the most appropriate of the following possible combinations:

LIGHTERS

LIGHTER REFILLS;

(b) UN 2793 FERROUS METAL BORINGS, SHAVINGS, TURNINGS or CUTTINGS in a form liable to self-heating. The proper shipping name is the most appropriate of the following combinations:

FERROUS METAL BORINGS

FERROUS METAL SHAVINGS

FERROUS METAL TURNINGS

FERROUS METAL CUTTINGS.

3.1.2.3 Proper shipping names may be used in the singular or plural as appropriate. In addition, when qualifying words are used as part of the proper shipping name, their sequence on the transport document or package markings is optional. For instance, "DIMETHYLAMINE AQUEOUS SOLUTION" may alternatively be shown "AQUEOUS SOLUTION OF DIMETHYLAMINE". Commercial or military names for goods of Class 1 which contain the proper shipping name supplemented by additional descriptive text may be used.

3.1.2.4 Many substances have an entry for both the liquid and solid state (see definitions for liquid and solid in 1.2.1), or for the solid and solution. These are allocated separate UN numbers which are not necessarily adjacent to each other.¹

3.1.2.5 Unless it is already included in capital letters in the name indicated in Table A in Chapter 3.2, the qualifying word "MOLTEN" shall be added as part of the proper shipping name when a substance, which is a solid in accordance with the definition in 1.2.1, is offered for carriage in the molten state (e.g. ALKYLPHENOL, SOLID, N.O.S., MOLTEN).

3.1.2.6 Except for self-reactive substances and organic peroxides and unless it is already included in capital letters in the name indicated in Column (2) of Table A of Chapter 3.2, the word "STABILIZED" shall be added as part of the proper shipping name of a substance which without stabilization would be forbidden from carriage in accordance with paragraphs 2.2.x.2 due to it being liable to dangerously react under conditions normally encountered in carriage (e.g.: "TOXIC LIQUID, ORGANIC, N.O.S., STABILIZED").

When temperature control is used to stabilize such substances to prevent the development of any dangerous excess pressure, then:

¹ Details are provided in the alphabetical index (Table B of Chapter 3.2), e.g.:
NITROXYLENES, LIQUID 6.1 1665
NITROXYLENES, SOLID 6.1 3447.

- (a) For liquids: liquids requiring temperature control² shall not be accepted for carriage by rail;
- (b) For gases: the conditions of carriage shall be approved by the competent authority.

3.1.2.7 Hydrates may be carried under the proper shipping name for the anhydrous substance.

3.1.2.8 Generic or "not otherwise specified" (n.o.s.) names

3.1.2.8.1 Generic and "not otherwise specified" proper shipping names that are assigned to special provision 274 or 318 in Column (6) of Table A in Chapter 3.2 shall be supplemented with the technical name of the goods unless a national law or international convention prohibits its disclosure if it is a controlled substance. For explosives of Class 1, the dangerous goods description may be supplemented by additional descriptive text to indicate commercial or military names. Technical names shall be entered in brackets immediately following the proper shipping name. An appropriate modifier, such as "contains" or "containing" or other qualifying words such as "mixture", "solution", etc. and the percentage of the technical constituent may also be used. For example: "UN 1993 FLAMMABLE LIQUID, N.O.S. (CONTAINS XYLENE AND BENZENE), 3, II".

3.1.2.8.1.1 The technical name shall be a recognized chemical name or biological name, or other name currently used in scientific and technical handbooks, journals and texts. Trade names shall not be used for this purpose. In the case of pesticides, only ISO common name(s), other name(s) in the World Health Organization (WHO) Recommended Classification of Pesticides by Hazard and Guidelines to Classification, or the name(s) of the active substance(s) may be used.

3.1.2.8.1.2 When a mixture of dangerous goods is described by one of the "n.o.s." or "generic" entries to which special provision 274 has been allocated in Column (6) of Table A in Chapter 3.2, not more than the two constituents which most predominantly contribute to the hazard or hazards of a mixture need to be shown, excluding controlled substances when their disclosure is prohibited by national law or international convention. If a package containing a mixture is labelled with any subsidiary risk label, one of the two technical names shown in parentheses shall be the name of the constituent which compels the use of the subsidiary risk label.

NOTE: See 5.4.1.2.2.

3.1.2.8.1.3 Examples illustrating the selection of the proper shipping name supplemented with the technical name of goods for such n.o.s. entries are:

UN 3394 ORGANOMETALLIC SUBSTANCE, LIQUID, PYROPHORIC, WATER-REACTIVE (trimethylgallium)

UN 2902 PESTICIDE, LIQUID, TOXIC, N.O.S. (drazoxolon).

3.1.3 Solutions or mixtures

NOTE: Where a substance is specifically mentioned by name in Table A of Chapter 3.2, it shall be identified in carriage by the proper shipping name in Column (2) of Table A of Chapter 3.2. Such substances may contain technical impurities (for example those deriving from the production process) or additives for stability or other purposes that do not affect its classification. However, a substance mentioned by name containing technical impurities or additives for stability or other purposes affecting its classification shall be considered a solution or mixture (see 2.1.3.3).

3.1.3.1 A solution or mixture is not subject to RID if the characteristics, properties, form or physical state of the solution or mixture are such that it does not meet the criteria, including human experience criteria, for inclusion in any class.

3.1.3.2 A solution or mixture composed of a single predominant substance mentioned by name in Table A of Chapter 3.2 and one or more substances not subject to RID or traces of one or more substances mentioned by name in Table A of Chapter 3.2, shall be assigned the UN number and proper shipping name of the predominant substance mentioned by name in Table A of Chapter 3.2 unless:

- (a) The solution or mixture is mentioned by name in Table A of Chapter 3.2;
- (b) The name and description of the substance mentioned by name in Table A of Chapter 3.2 specifically indicate that they apply only to the pure substance;
- (c) The class, classification code, packing group, or physical state of the solution or mixture is different from that of the substance mentioned by name in Table A of Chapter 3.2; or
- (d) The hazard characteristics and properties of the solution or mixture necessitate emergency response measures that are different from those required for the substance mentioned by name in Table A of Chapter 3.2.

² This includes all substances (including substances stabilized by chemical inhibitors) whose self-accelerating decomposition temperature (SADT) in the containment used for carriage is not more than 50 °C.

Qualifying words such as "SOLUTION" or "MIXTURE", as appropriate, shall be added as part of the proper shipping name, for example, "ACETONE SOLUTION". In addition, the concentration of the mixture or solution may also be indicated after the basic description of the mixture or solution, for example, "ACETONE 75% SOLUTION".

3.1.3.3 A solution or mixture that is not mentioned by name in Table A of Chapter 3.2 and that is composed of two or more dangerous goods shall be assigned to an entry that has the proper shipping name, description, class, classification code and packing group that most precisely describe the solution or mixture.