

## Introduction to Hazardous Materials Transport

Handout

### DOT CLASSIFICATION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

#### Packing hazardous materials for transport

- Use the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Hazardous Materials Table to properly identify and classify hazardous materials before packing them for shipment.
- Follow packing requirements based on the packing group (PG) of the hazardous material being shipped:
  - PG I for great danger
  - PG II for medium danger
  - PG III for minor danger
- Select packaging to meet the specific performance standards required by the regulations for the hazardous material that will be packed in it.
- Pack all hazardous materials according to the packaging manufacturer's instructions.
- Observe filling limits.
- Use the Segregation Table for Hazardous Materials to determine compatibility of materials.
- Make sure packaging and the hazardous material are compatible.
- Be sure the materials are properly secured and cushioned.
- Close and seal the package properly so that materials cannot leak or escape.



#### Markings, labels, and placards

- Mark all packages with the proper name and UN identification ID number of the hazardous materials contained in the package.
- Make sure that markings are durable, in English, and not obscured by other markings or labels.
- Use container labels and transport vehicle placards that identify the hazard by name and number as well as with a symbol.

#### Shipping papers must include the following information:

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|---|--|
| —Proper shipping name of the hazardous material being shipped | —Immediate precautions to be taken in the event of an accident or incident |
| —Hazard class or division number                              | —Preliminary first-aid measures  |
| —UN ID number   | —Methods for handling fires, spills, or leaks                              |
| —Packaging group of hazardous materials                       | —Amount of hazardous materials indicated by mass or volume                 |
| —Number and types of packages                                 | —A 24-hour emergency response telephone number                             |
| —Immediate health hazards                                     | —Shippers certification  |
| —Risks of fire and explosion                                  |  |