

Dangerous Goods Notification Procedures

Attention is drawn to the Dangerous Goods in Harbour Areas Regulations 2016 specifically Section 6 Notice of Entry of Dangerous Goods. In summary this Regulation states that anyone bringing dangerous goods into a Harbour area must pre-notify the Harbour master and where relevant, the berth operator. Normally this is required 24 hours before entering the Harbour.

1. The Master, agent or operator, as relevant, of any vessel or vehicle, or any other mode of transport, must before bringing any dangerous goods into the Harbour area, give notice to:-
 - a. The Harbour master of the Harbour area
 - b. The berth operator where the goods are to be brought to a berth and;
 - c. Where relevant, the Harbour master of any abutting or overlapping Harbour area.
2. The notice under paragraph (1) must be given not less than 24 hours and not more than 6 months before the dangerous goods are brought into the Harbour area.
3. Notwithstanding paragraph (2) –
 - a. The Harbour master may, if operational limitations make it necessary, direct that a period of more than 24 hours, but less than 14 days notice, be given;
 - b. The Harbour master, and where relevant the berth operator, may agree to accept less than 24 hours notice where either it is not reasonably practicable to give 24 hours notice or *neither health nor safety risks are increased by a shorter period*;
 - c. The master of a vessel carrying dangerous goods which is under the control of the Secretary of state, or under the control of a visiting force or headquarters, must give notice to the Harbour master before entry into the Harbour area,
4. Notice under this regulation is to be given in writing or such form as the harbour master may agree and contain sufficient information to assist a proper evaluation of the risk created by the goods to the health and safety of any person.

Information to be notified on pre-arrival notification form

The information notified to the Harbour master under regulation 6(1) must be sufficient to enable the Harbour master or Harbour authority to make an assessment of the risk created by the goods to the health and safety of any person. The main information requirements are:

- a) The UN number;
- b) The proper shipping name (PSN) of the substance (for those attracting Special Provision 274 or 318 in the IMDG Code a technical name in brackets should follow the PSN). Trade names are not acceptable;
- c) The classification of the substance under the IMDG Code;
- d) The packing group (where applicable);
- e) The number and type of packages (where applicable);
- f) The quantity or weight;
- g) The estimated time of arrival.

Other than (g), this information can be found on the Dangerous Goods Note accompanying the shipment of dangerous goods.