



Comparing Infectious Substance and Diagnostic Specimen Transport Requirements

There are some serious new IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations that became effective January 1, 2004. The most significant new or changed regulations are as follows:

SHIPPER'S DECLARATION

USG-01 says that US Shippers must retain a copy of their Shipper's Declaration for each shipment for at least 375 days, this can be a photocopy, but somewhere it must contain the date when the shipment was accepted by the airline. The retention requirement is not new to DOT, only the recognition by IATA as a State variation is new.

DIAGNOSTIC SPECIMENS

Since 2003, Diagnostic Specimen has been a Proper Shipping Name for what has always been "Diagnostic Specimens packed in compliance with IATA Packing Instruction 650". The 2004 IATA requirements no longer require the phrase "packed in compliance with IATA Packing Instruction 650". It is not out of compliance for the verbiage to be there, but it is no longer required.

3.6.2.1.4 NOTE 1

Diagnostic Specimens may include pathogens of Risk Groups 2 and 3 if they are being transported for investigational purposes, which means we can ship HIV and Hepatitis and other such disease agents without labeling or a shipper's declaration --but Risk Group 4 pathogens, and some Risk Group 2-3 pathogens in lab cultures, must be shipped as Class 6.2, and there is a list of such pathogens in the new Appendix I

TWO IMPORTANT IATA PACKAGE MARKING RULES MADE AFTER THE 2004 BOOK WAS PUBLISHED:

7.1.5.1(d) NET QUANTITY MARKING - The IATA regulations require ALL packages of Dangerous Goods to be marked with the net quantity of the dangerous goods inside -- BUT, this rule was amended after publication as: only where there is more than one package in a shipment -- then you must mark the net quantity on each package.

7.1.5.8 AIR ELIGIBILITY MARK - The rule says ALL packages must be marked with the circle/aircraft mark, BUT, this rule was amended after publication as: packages may be marked -- MEANING: You don't have to do it.

Infectious Substance and Diagnostic Specimen Comparison

	Infectious Substance	Diagnostic Specimen
Regulated as a Dangerous Good	YES	YES
Shipper's Declaration	YES	NO
UN Specification Packaging	YES	NO
Primary Watertight	YES	YES
Secondary Watertight	YES	YES
Drop Test	9 Meters	1.2 Meters
Puncture Test	YES	NO
Stack Test	YES	NO
95kPa Pressure Test	YES	YES
Rigid Outer Box	YES	YES
Marking Requirement	YES	YES
Label Requirement	YES	NO

North American Business Centre
1 • 800 • 856 • STAT

European Business Centre
+44 (0) 20 8757 7590

www.qicstat.com