



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Research and
Special Programs
Administration**

MAR - 9 2001

400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Mr. Tim Shaw
484 West Main Street
Milan, MI 48160

Ref. No. 01-0050

Dear Mr. Shaw:

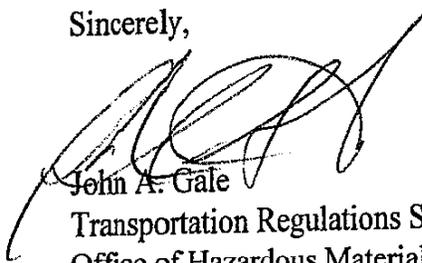
This is in response to your letter dated February 7, 2001, requesting clarification on the expression of net mass or net volume on a shipping paper prepared in accordance with the International Civil Air Organization's Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods By Air (ICAO Technical Instructions). Specifically, you ask if the expression "1 Fiberboard Box X Kilograms 41.31" satisfies Part 4; paragraph 4.1.3(a)(1) of the ICAO Technical Instructions.

Section 171.11 of the HMR authorizes the use of the ICAO Technical Instructions in lieu of the HMR for packaging, marking, labeling, classifying, and describing hazardous materials which are transported by air or by motor vehicle either before or after being transported by air. Part 4; paragraph 4.1.3(a)(1) of the ICAO Technical Instructions requires that, "except for salvage packagings, when a maximum quantity per package is shown in columns 10 or 12 of Table 2-14, the net mass, the net volume, or the gross mass, as appropriate, for every package of each item of dangerous goods bearing a different proper shipping name or UN number or packing group" must be included on the dangerous goods transport document (i.e., shipping paper).

Though the ICAO Technical Instructions do not state that the unit of measure precede or follow the quantity therein, it is our opinion that the unit of measurement is required and that it must follow the total quantity. Therefore, the expression "1 Fiberboard Box X Kilograms 41.31" does not satisfy the requirements of Part 4; paragraph 4.1.3(a)(1) of the ICAO Technical Instructions. We are considering proposing clarifying text to the ICAO Technical Instructions.

I hope this satisfies your request.

Sincerely,



John A. Gale

Transportation Regulations Specialist
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards



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1711

BAH Gate
§ 171.11
ICAO
01-0050

484 West Main Street
Milan, MI 48160
February 7, 2001

Mr. Edward T. Mazzullo
Director, Office of Hazardous Materials Standards
U.S. DOT/RSPA (DHM-10)
400 7th Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590-0001
Dear Mr. Mazzullo,

Regarding the expression of net mass or net volume on the shipping paper required under the provisions of 49CFR Part 171.11.

ICAO Chapter 4, 4-1-3 (a) 1), requires "...when a maximum quantity per package is shown in columns 10 or 12 of Table 2-14, the net mass or the net volume or the gross mass, as appropriate, for every package of each item of dangerous goods bearing a different proper shipping name or UN number or packing group."

Does the expression (reproduced below) "1 Fiberboard Box X Kilograms 41.31" satisfy this requirement?

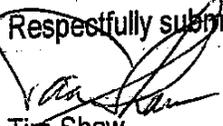
NATURE AND QUANTITY OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Dangerous Goods Identification					Quantity and type of packages	Packing Inst.	Authorization
Proper Shipping Name	Class or Division	UN or ID No.	Packing Group	Subsidiary Risk			
Engines, Internal Combustion (Flammable Liquid Powered)	9	UN3166			1 Fiberboard Box X Kilograms 41.31	900	

I cannot find any specific provision requiring the unit of measure to precede or follow the quantity therein. I believe it preferable for the quantity to precede the unit of measure, but ask if the quantity following the unit of measure is a violation of the regulation?

Your interpretation of this 'expression of information' question will directly effect air carrier acceptance of Hazardous Materials.

Respectfully submitted,


Tim Shaw
734-439-2475