

Guidelines Regarding implementation of The Verified Gross Mass of a Container in Taiwan (Draft)

Promulgated on May , 2016

1. Introduction

It is set based on the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), as amended, requires in chapter VI, that packed containers' gross mass are verified prior to stowage aboard ship.

2. Definitions

2.1 Shipper means a legal entity or person named on the bill of lading or sea waybill or equivalent multimodal transport document as shipper and/or who (or in whose name or on whose behalf) a contract of carriage has been concluded with a shipping company.

2.2 Terminal representative means a person acting on behalf of a legal entity or person engaged in the business of providing wharfage, dock, stowage, warehouse, or other cargo handling services in connection with a ship.

2.3 Packed container means a container loaded ("stuffed" or "filled") with liquids, gases, solids, packages and cargo items, including pallets, dunnage, and other packing material and securing materials.

2.4 Verified gross mass means the combined mass of a container's tare mass and the masses of all packages and cargo items, including pallets, dunnage and other packing material and securing materials packed into the container and the total gross mass verified through signature of shipper or a person duly authorized by the shipper.

3. Methods for obtaining the verified gross mass of a packed container

3.1 Method No.1: Upon the conclusion of packing and sealing a container, the shipper may weigh, or have arranged that a third party weighs, the packed container.

3.2 Method No.2: The shipper (or, by arrangement of the shipper, a third party), may weigh all packages and cargo items, including the mass of pallets, dunnage and other packing and securing material to be packed in the container, and add the tare mass of the container to the sum of the single masses.

3.3 If the verified gross mass of a packed container is obtained by weighing the container while it is on a road vehicle, (e.g. chassis or trailer), the tare mass of the road vehicle should be subtracted and any fuel in the tank of the tractor should also be subtracted to obtain the verified gross mass of the packed container. If two packed containers on a road vehicle are to be weighed, their gross mass should be determined by weighing each container separately.

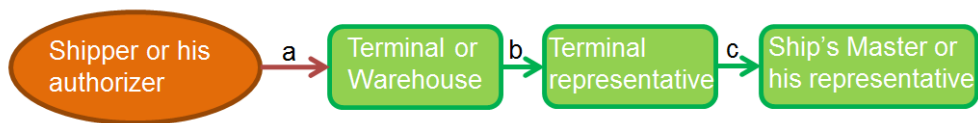
4. VGM obtaining

4.1 The shipper is responsible for a packed container. The shipper is also responsible for ensuring that

the verified gross mass is communicated in the shipping documents sufficiently in advance to be used by the ship's master or his representative and the terminal representative in the preparation of the ship stowage plan. In the absence of the shipper providing the verified gross mass of the packed container, the container should not be loaded on to the ship unless the master or his representative and the terminal representative have obtained the verified gross mass through other means.

How such information is to be communicated between the shipper and any third party should be agreed between the commercial parties involved.

4.2 Operation processes as follows:



- a. Providing the verified gross mass or authorized a third party to provide
- b. Communicating VGM
- c. Communicating VGM

4.2.1 Process of VGM for CY

4.2.1.1 The shipper or, by arrangement of the shipper, a third party, after using a calibrated and certified equipment to obtain gross mass, may record and sign on the Container Load Plan (CLP) or Warehoused Voucher, or any third party should be agreed between the commercial parties involved the shipper's verification of the gross mass.

4.2.1.2 The shipper may arrange Terminal to use a calibrated and certified equipment to obtain gross mass in order to facilitate the shipper's verification of the gross mass if shipper fails to provide VGM before the container arrives at the terminal gate.

4.2.1.3 Terminal representative hands over VGM to ship's Master or his representative.

4.2.2 Process of VGM for CFS

4.2.2.1 The shipper or, by arrangement of the shipper, a third party, after using a calibrated and certified equipment to obtain gross mass, may record and sign on the Warehoused Voucher, or any third party should be agreed between the commercial parties involved the shipper's verification of the gross mass.

4.2.2.2 Methods of obtaining VGM for CFS in Terminal or Warehouse

4.2.2.2.1 The warehouse personnel assists to aggregate all certificates (including each VGM with the signature of each shipper), and add the tare mass of the container to the sum of the single masses.

4.2.2.2.2 The forwarder aggregates all packages and cargo items, including the mass of pallets, dunnage and other packing and securing material to be packed in the container, and add the tare mass

of the container to the sum of the single masses and sign by forwarder to obtain VGM.

4.2.2.2.3 The shipper may arrange Terminal or warehouse to use a calibrated and certified equipment to obtain gross mass in order to facilitate the shipper's verification of the gross mass if shipper fails to provide VGM.

4.2.2.2.4 Terminal representative hand over VGM to ship's Master or his representative.

5. Equipment

The scale, weighbridge, lifting equipment or other devices used to verify the gross mass of the container should meet the applicable accuracy standards and requirements by the Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection (BSMI), M.O.E.A. in which the equipment is being used.

6. Documentation for VGM

This document (including CLP, or Warehoused Voucher, or any third party should be agreed between the commercial parties involved) declaring the verified gross mass of the packed container should clearly indicate container no, gross weight of container and be signed by a person duly authorized by the shipper.

7. Discrepancies in gross mass

7.1 Any discrepancy between a packed container's gross mass declared prior to the verification of its gross mass and its verified gross mass should be resolved by use of the verified gross mass.

7.2 Any discrepancy between a verified gross mass of a packed container obtained prior to the container's delivery to the port terminal facility and a verified gross mass of that container obtained by that port facility's weighing of the container should be resolved by use of the latter verified gross mass obtained by the port terminal facility.

7.3 Ultimately, and in conformance with the Code of Safe Practice for Cargo Stowage and Securing, the ship's master should accept the cargo on board his ship only if he is satisfied that it can be safely transported.