

# INTEGRATING CONFIDENCE WITH DANGEROUS GOODS SHIPPING



*Making DG software an integral part of your IT platform can save time and simplify your workflow.*

Enterprise resource planning (ERP) software, along with shipping software and warehouse management systems (WMS), have helped streamline the supply chain for a wide range of companies in nearly every industry.

**ERP**



ENTERPRISE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**SHIPPING SOFTWARE**



**WMS**



WAREHOUSE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

But for those who ship Dangerous Goods, it may not be enough.

Labelmaster's 2016 survey of Dangerous Goods shippers revealed some uncomfortable doubts about companies' abilities to ship hazmat compliantly:



**believed** their shipping technology was not forward-thinking



**did not believe** their companies had the right technology in place



There are literally thousands of hazmat shipping regulations to contend with, and it seems like they're changing every day.

**So, how do shippers of DG manage?**

## THE MANUAL APPROACH

Some companies use software to prepare shipments but handle the DG compliance separately as a manual process.

Searching through regulatory publications for guidance on:

- Packaging
- Labels
- Marks
- Documentation

Manually maintaining classifications for products and parts that qualify as hazmat:

- Hazard class
- Packing group (packing instructions)
- Quantity limitations



## STANDALONE DG SOFTWARE

Adding dedicated DG shipping software to the process can eliminate much of the manual effort and help ensure compliance with the latest regulations. But a standalone solution can introduce additional complications.



- **Having to maintain two sets of data:**
  - Products and parts
  - Documents (e.g., SDS)
  - Customer addresses
- **Training existing employees on a new system, and new employees on two systems**
- **Ensuring DG software is up to date with the latest regulatory changes**

## INTEGRATED DG FUNCTIONALITY

Ideally, a DG software solution should be able to integrate with your ERP, TMS or WMS system to provide the best-of-breed functionality you need in a familiar interface.



API integration

- Seamless access to the required DG functions
- Saves time and effort
- No duplication of data
- Simplifies training
- Regulations and tables updated automatically

API stands for "applied program interface." APIs allow one system—like a shipper's ERP platform—to link to a cloud-based program without any interruptions to its interface. To the user, it appears as if everything is part of the same system.

## ENSURING A SMOOTH IMPLEMENTATION

Before embarking on integrating a DG software solution with your system, it's important to ensure your solution partner offers strong documentation and implementation expertise. This is something you want done right and done once.



## PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Integrating best-of-breed DG software functionality can bring significant efficiencies to DG shipping operations and help ensure compliance with the latest regulations.

**Contact Labelmaster Software to learn more about our robust DGIS software and API integration.**

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