

2015 REGULATIONS IN REVIEW

Anyone who's worked in the world of DG shipping regulations for more than 15 minutes knows there's only one constant—**change**. 2015 was no exception. While lithium batteries were far and away the most talked-about topic, GHS alignment and crude oil shipments were also in the news.

JAN 2015



JANUARY 1

LITHIUM METAL BATTERIES AS CARGO

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) prohibits the carrying of lithium metal batteries as cargo in passenger airplanes.



JUL 2015

JULY 17

AIRPLANE MANUFACTURER ISSUES GUIDANCE

Boeing releases new guidance on the bulk carriage of lithium ion batteries on its passenger aircraft.

JULY 27

AIRLINE BANS LITHIUM METAL SHIPMENTS

Malaysia Airlines suspends the transport of lithium metal batteries, including when contained or packed with equipment, on passenger and cargo aircraft.



OCTOBER 28

FRA PTC DEADLINE EXTENDED

Congress extends the deadline until December 31, 2018. American railroads get three more years to install Positive Train Control (PTC) on all lines carrying passengers and any toxic by inhalation (TIH) chemicals, in compliance with the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008. The U.S. avoids the "nuclear option" of railroads shutting down in fear of violations.



OCT 2015

FEBRUARY 6

BIG CHANGES FOR LITHIUM BATTERIES

Mandatory compliance for PHMSA's HM-224F begins, significantly changing the regulations for shipping lithium batteries across all modes of transportation.



FEB 2015

FEBRUARY 20

LITHIUM BATTERY EXTENSION

PHMSA extends the compliance date for HM-224F (for modes other than air) to August 7, 2015.



AUG 2015



AUGUST 7

LITHIUM BATTERY COMPLIANCE DATE

Mandatory compliance for HM-224F now applies to all shipping modes.

DEC 2015



DECEMBER 1

GHS DISTRIBUTORS' DEADLINE

Distributors may only ship containers labeled by chemical manufacturers or importers with HCS-compliant labels.

MAR 2015



MARCH 2

USPS PUB 52 UPDATE

The USPS revises Publication 52 to reflect recent changes in US 49 CFR governing the shipment of lithium batteries.

AUGUST 17

CONFIDENTIALITY RULING

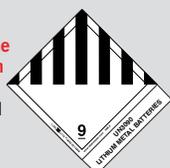
The Baltimore Circuit Court rules against CSX Transportation and Norfolk Southern Railway, saying routes and cargo descriptions for trains carrying flammable liquids are not confidential.



AUGUST 31

ANOTHER AIRLINE RESTRICTS LITHIUM BATTERIES

Lufthansa bans all excepted standalone shipments of lithium batteries (lithium metal and lithium ion) on passenger or cargo aircraft, and all fully regulated lithium battery shipments on passenger aircraft.



JUN 2015



JUNE 1

GHS MANUFACTURERS' DEADLINE

Chemical manufacturers and importers must comply with all modified provisions of OSHA HCS 2012, which helps align U.S. workplace hazard communications with the Globally Harmonized System (GHS).

JUNE 9

FRA ADVISORY

In response to recent fatal passenger train incidents, the USDOT FRA issues a formal Safety Advisory (SA: 2015-03) directing railroads to take further steps to reduce the risk of accidents.



SEPTEMBER 4

FRA GRANTS

The USDOT announces \$10 million in federal safety grants to help federal and state governments address safety issues surrounding crude oil shipments on local rail lines.



SEP 2015

SEPTEMBER 9

DGS X

Labelmaster hosts the 10th Dangerous Goods Symposium in St. Louis, Missouri, bringing together DG professionals and regulators for three days of discussion and collaboration on the latest regulatory changes.



What's in store for 2016?

Well, there's the June 1 GHS deadline, when compliance becomes mandatory for all U.S. workplaces. And there are sure to be many more surprises throughout the year.

Don't be caught unprepared!

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