

Information for First Responders Involving Dangerous Goods		Inspection and Enforcement New Brunswick	3.1.9
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1. Purpose:

To provide important and valuable information to emergency personnel who are the first to arrive on the scene of an incident involving dangerous goods.

2. Procedure:

A. General:

The following topics provide useful and important information which all HSE officers should be familiar with:

- i. Emergency Response Guidebook
- ii. Dangerous Goods Safety Marks
- iii. Shipping Documents, and
- iv. Emergency Response Assistance Plans (ERAPs)

B. Canutec Help Line:

- i. Where situations require assistance, officers are to contact CANUTEC at the following telephone numbers:
- ii. For "EMERGENCY ONLY": (613) 996-6666 or *666 (cellular)
Collect calls are accepted
- iii. For "Non-Emergency": (613) 992-4624 (Information)

3. Standards

A. Emergency Response Guidebook:

- i. The guidebook provides advice on what to do at an accident involving dangerous goods including information on the hazards of the dangerous goods, recommended personal protective equipment and recommended emergency measures.
- ii. Additional information on the guidebook is available at the following website:
<http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/canutec/guide-menu-227.htm>

B. Dangerous Goods Safety Marks:

- i. Dangerous good safety marks (placards or labels) mean that dangerous goods are present. They also provide some information about the dangerous goods.
- ii. Additional information on dangerous goods safety marks is available at the following website: <http://www.tc.gc.ca/tdg/clear/part4.htm#app>
- iii. Placards are displayed on large means of containment, (capacity larger than 450L). Labels, UN numbers and shipping names are displayed on small means of containment (capacity of 450L or less).
- iv. When a placard is present, look also for a four-digit number. It may be displayed on the placard or on an orange panel next to the placard. This would be the UN number and can be used in identifying the dangerous goods. It substitutes for a chemical name and also allows you to use the Emergency Response guidebook. A tank truck transporting gasoline would display 1203

C. Placard: A placard means:

- i. An Emergency Response Assistance Plan (ERAP) may be available for the dangerous goods; or
- ii. The dangerous goods are a liquid or gas in direct contact with the large means of containment; or
- iii. The total gross mass of dangerous goods in the large means of containment is greater than 500 kg; or
- iv. The shipment is from another country and is placarded in accordance with the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code or the United States 49 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations), requirements; or
- v. Empty vehicles may be required to display placards if a danger is present.

D. Caution:

If there is less than 500 kg of dangerous goods in a large means of containment, there may be no placards displayed. There still may be dangerous goods present even if there are no placards on a large means of containment.

E. UN number:

The presence of a UN number on a placard or orange panel means:

- i. An Emergency Response Assistance Plan (ERAP) is available for the dangerous goods; or
- ii. The dangerous goods are a liquid or gas in direct contact with the large means of containment; or
- iii. A single dangerous good is being transported.

F. Shipping Documents:

- i. There should be a hard copy of the shipping document available.
- ii. The shipping document contains information about the dangerous goods being transported, including:
 - a. The UN number
 - b. The shipping name
 - c. The primary class and in some cases the subsidiary class (es)
 - d. The packing group for that class
 - 1. Packing Group I indicates the highest danger in that class
 - 2. Packing Group II indicates medium danger in that class
 - 3. Packing Group III indicates minor danger in that class
 - e. The quantity of dangerous goods
- iii. The shipping document will also show a 24-hour emergency telephone number of a person or organization that can provide technical information about the dangerous goods.

G. Road Shipments:

The shipping document should be found:

In a pocket attached to the driver's door, on the driver's seat or in a clearly visible location.

H. Rail Shipments:

In the hands of a member of the crew or in the first locomotive.

Rail shipments require an additional document called a “consist”, which lists all the rail cars that make up the train. It also identifies those rail cars that contain dangerous goods. This could provide you with a quick view of what dangerous goods may be of concern in an accident.

I. Marine Shipments:

On or near the bridge of the ship.

J. For other cases:

In a waterproof receptacle securely attached to the means of containment or with a person responsible for supervising the shipment while it is in storage.

4. Emergency Response Assistance Plans

For dangerous goods that require special response, an emergency response assistance plan is required. An Emergency Response Assistance Plan (ERAP) reference number starting with “ERP or ERAP or PIU” and the telephone number to activate the plan will be indicated on the shipping document. If you see such a number and have the slightest doubt about your action, call the number. The purpose of an ERAP is to ensure that a response team and appropriate equipment is available for these dangerous goods in emergency situations. The person shipping or importing the dangerous goods is responsible for preparing an ERAP and having it approved by Transport Canada before beginning transport.

5. Other-Reference Information:

Also, reference:

[3.05 Assistance](#)

[3.06 Scene Management - Assistance to other Agencies](#)

[7.03 Transportation of Dangerous Goods](#)