

## TRANSPORTING DANGEROUS GOODS BY ROAD

### INTRODUCTION

The transportation of dangerous goods, by road in South Australia, is regulated by the *Dangerous Substances (Dangerous Goods Transport) Regulations (the Regulations) 2008* and *The Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road & Rail 7<sup>th</sup> Edition (ADG Code)*. This legislation is in line with international requirements and provides consistency for those transporting dangerous goods interstate and overseas.

The Regulations prescribe the legal obligations, which apply to consignors, packers, loaders, prime contractors and drivers for the transportation of dangerous goods.

The Regulations specify:

- the quantities of dangerous goods to be transported
- vehicle/driver licensing and
- vehicle placarding.

### LICENCES

A Dangerous Goods Licence is required for both the driver and the vehicle if the following amounts, or above, are transported:

- dangerous goods in a receptacle with a **capacity** of 500 litres or more
- 500 kilograms or more of dangerous goods in a receptacle.

Vehicles carrying up to 3000 litres of dangerous goods, in intermediate bulk containers (IBCs), provided that they are not filled or emptied while on the vehicle, are exempt from the licensing requirements.

### PLACARD LOADS

A placard load is described as; dangerous goods in a load that consists of one of the following:

- dangerous goods in a single receptacle with a **capacity** of 500 litres or more
- 500 kilograms or more of dangerous goods in a single receptacle
- an aggregate quantity of dangerous goods of 1000 L/kg or more
- an aggregate quantity of dangerous goods of 250 L/kg or more, which includes any of Divisions 2.1, 2.3, or any Packing Group I of any Class or Division.

### PLACARDING VEHICLES

When a placard load of dangerous goods is being transported, the vehicle must display Class/Division diamonds and, where applicable, emergency information panels (EIPs) in accordance with the ADG code.

Chapter 5.3 of the ADG Code specifies placarding requirements.

Retail distribution loads are exempt from this requirement. (Refer to definition Chapter 7.3 of the ADG Code.)

### DOCUMENTS

Vehicles transporting dangerous goods are required to carry transport documentation provided by the consignor. In addition, if a placard load of dangerous goods is carried, an emergency procedure guide for each of the dangerous goods is required.

These documents are to be carried in a clearly marked emergency information holder located on, or immediately adjacent to a cab door.

The transport document must include the following information:

- consignor's name and telephone number
- United Nations number of the goods
- proper shipping name, or the name of the goods that appears on the packaging or article
- dangerous goods class or division and subsidiary risk (where applicable)
- packing group (if any)
- number and description of packages and receptacles
- aggregate quantity of dangerous goods.

### STOWAGE AND COMPATIBILITY

Dangerous goods must not be carried on a vehicle, in any way that increases the risk, due to interaction with incompatible goods, or incorrect stowage.

The ADG Code and Load Restraint Guide provide further guidance.

### PROTECTIVE & SAFETY EQUIPMENT

A vehicle carrying dangerous goods, in a placard load, must be equipped with personal protective and safety equipment as specified in Table 12.2 of the ADG Code.

The following safety equipment is also required:

- fire extinguishers, that are readily accessible and in quick release brackets, must be provided according to the class / division of dangerous goods carried and the type of vehicle (ADG Code Chapter 12 specifies extinguisher types and location on the vehicle)
- three double-sided reflector signals that are clean, in good condition and comply with Australian Standard 3790.

### INSURANCE

Vehicles carrying a placard load of dangerous goods, including each vehicle forming part of a combination vehicle (excluding a prime mover), must be insured for the sum of \$5m against costs arising from an accident involving those dangerous goods.

***Note:** This Safeguard is for guidance use only as it is not a comprehensive list of the requirements for transporting dangerous goods.*

*The Dangerous Substances (Dangerous Goods Transport) Regulations and ADG Code should be referred to, prior to transportation.*

### FURTHER INFORMATION

#### SafeWork SA

GPO Box 465  
ADELAIDE SA 5001

#### Country Offices

Berri, Mount Gambier, Port Lincoln, Port Pirie and Whyalla

#### Help Centre

Library and Bookshop  
100 Waymouth Street, Adelaide

**Telephone** 1300 365 255

**Website** [www.safework.sa.gov.au](http://www.safework.sa.gov.au)

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