



U.S. Department
of Transportation

Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

MAR 12 2014

Ms. Susan D. Camara
Safety Manager
YRC Freight, Inc.
1990 Roe Avenue, MS/A340
Overland Park, KS 66211

Ref. No. 14-0031

Dear Ms. Camara:

This responds to your January 27, 2014 request for clarification of the use of the DANGEROUS placard under the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180). Specifically, you ask if §§ 172.500(b)(6) and 172.502(c) permit the display of a DANGEROUS placard on a transport vehicle containing two or more categories of non-bulk when one of those commodities is a combustible liquid in a non-bulk package.

In accordance with § 172.504(b), a freight container, unit load device, transport vehicle, or rail car which contains non-bulk packages with two or more categories of hazardous materials that require different placards specified in table 2 of § 172.504(e) may be placarded with a DANGEROUS placard instead of the separate placarding specified for each of the materials. Section 172.500(b)(6) states that "placarding does not apply to combustible liquids in non-bulk packaging." However, § 172.502(c) states "placards may be displayed for a hazardous material, even when not required, if the placarding otherwise conforms to the requirements of this subpart." It is your understanding that displaying a DANGEROUS placard on a transport vehicle containing Table 2 Class 3 flammable liquid and Table 2 combustible liquid (both in non-bulk packages) is permissible under the HMR.

Your understanding is correct. A COMBUSTIBLE placard is not required for combustible liquids in non-bulk packaging (§ 172.500 (b)(6)). However, a placard may be displayed for a hazardous material, even when not required, provided the placarding is carried out in conformance with Part 172, Subpart F. Therefore the use of the DANGEROUS placard on a transport vehicle containing Class 3 flammable liquid and combustible liquids, both in non-bulk packages, is authorized under the Part 172, Subpart F provided all other requirements of § 172.504(b) are met.

I hope this answers your inquiry. If you need additional assistance, please contact this office on (202) 366-8553.

Sincerely,

Robert Benedict
Chief, Regulations Development Branch
Standards and Rulemaking Division



Booth e
§ 172.500(b)(6)
§ 172.504(c)
Placarding
14-0031

January 27, 2014

Mr. Charles E. Betts
Director, Office of Hazardous Materials Standards
U.S. DOT/PHMSA (PHH-10)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE East Building, 2nd Floor
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Betts:

I am requesting written clarification about the interaction of 49 CFR 172.500(b)(6), which waives placarding requirements for combustible liquids in non-bulk packaging, and 172.502(c), which allows permissive placarding for loads that do not require placarding but are shipped in conformance to the Hazardous Materials Regulations. Is it permissible to display a DANGEROUS placard on a transport vehicle containing two or more categories of non-bulk 172.504 Table 2 items when one of those commodities is a combustible liquid in a non-bulk package?

172.500(b)(6) Applicability of placarding requirements states that placarding does not apply to "combustible liquids in non-bulk packagings."

172.502(c) states "Placards may be displayed for a hazardous material, even when not required, if the placarding otherwise conforms to the requirements of this subpart."

172.504(b) states that a "transport vehicle, . . . which contains two or more categories of hazardous materials that require different placards specified in table 2 . . . may be placarded with a DANGEROUS placard instead of the placard specified for each of the materials in table 2."

In 172.504 Table 2, Class 3 flammable liquid which requires a FLAMMABLE placard is listed separately from Combustible liquid which requires a COMBUSTIBLE placard. These distinct entries indicate each is a separate hazardous material classification.

Therefore, displaying a DANGEROUS placard on a transport vehicle containing table 2 Class 3 Flammable Liquid and table 2 Combustible Liquid (both in non-bulk packagings) should be allowed.

Your guidance is greatly appreciated and I look forward to your interpretation on this matter.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan D. Camara". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Susan D. Camara
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