



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration**

January 30, 2026

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

DOT-SP 22192

EXPIRATION DATE: 2026-06-30

(FOR RENEWAL, SEE 49 CFR 107.109)

1. GRANTEE: Echo Magnet Services B.V.
Helmond, The Netherlands

U.S. AGENT: Block Imaging Parts & Service, LLC
Holt, MI

2. PURPOSE AND LIMITATIONS:

- a. This emergency special permit authorizes the transportation in commerce of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machines (classified as UN3538) via cargo-only aircraft. This special permit provides no relief from the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) or the International Civil Aviation Organization's Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (ICAO TI) other than as specifically stated herein. The most recent revision supersedes all previous revisions.

- b. The safety analyses performed in the development of this special permit only considered the hazards and risks associated with the transportation in commerce.

- c. No party status will be granted to this special permit.

- d. This special permit serves as an approval under Special Provision A2 of the ICAO TI and § 173.232(g)(3) and as a "Competent Authority Approval" as defined under 49 CFR § 107.1.

3. REGULATORY SYSTEM AFFECTED: 49 CFR Parts 106, 107 and 171-180.

4. REGULATIONS FROM WHICH EXEMPTED: 49 CFR § 172.101 Hazardous Materials Table Column (9B) in that "150 kg" is substituted for "Forbidden" for the entry associated with UN3538, articles containing non-flammable, non-toxic gas n.o.s. in terms of the net quantity of helium, refrigerated liquid contained within the MRI; § 172.301(c)

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in that each package need not be marked with the special permit number, as provided herein; and § 173.232(h)(2) in that transportation aboard cargo aircraft is authorized, as provided herein.

5. **BASIS:** This emergency special permit is based on the application dated January 23, 2026, submitted in accordance with § 107.117 and the determination it is necessary to prevent significant economic loss and the additional information of Echo Magnet Services B.V. dated January 27, 2026.
6. **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (49 CFR 172.101):**

Hazardous Material Description			
Proper Shipping Name	Hazard Class/ Division	Identification Number	Packing Group
Articles containing non-flammable, non-toxic gas, n.o.s.*	2.2	UN3538	N/A

*The MRI machine contains helium, refrigerated liquid.

7. **SAFETY CONTROL MEASURES:**

a. **PACKAGING:** The prescribed packaging for transporting the Magnetic Resonance Imaging Diagnostic Medical (MRI) machines consists of an inner and an outer packaging as described below:

(1) Inner packaging:

(i) The helium is contained within a pressure vessel certified as meeting the German Pressure Vessel Ordinance (DruckbehV)/TRB 200/AD-HPO (TUV), which is not marked with a UN certification marking.

(ii) The pressure vessel is held within a steel vacuum chamber within a GE Medical Systems MRI machine, which is built to the Underwriter's Laboratory standard UL-2601.

(2) Outer packaging:

(i) The MRI must be mounted on a wooden skid and placed in a sturdy wooden crate, which must conform to § 173.232(f)(2) and the ROBUST ARTICLES paragraph in Packing Instruction 221 in the Supplement to the ICAO TI. The gross mass of the MRI machine and the wooden crate must not exceed 13,000 kilograms; or

(ii) Valves must be protected by shrouds or guards in accordance with Part 4, Chapter 4, paragraph 4.1.1.8 c) of the ICAO TI. Shrouds or Guards must be constructed to meet the ISO 11117.1998 standard. The MRI must be placed into an outer packaging such as a box or crate, which must conform to § 173.232(f)(2) and the ROBUST ARTICLES paragraph in Packing Instruction 221 in the Supplement to the ICAO TI. The gross mass of the MRI machine and packaging must not exceed 13,000 kilograms.

(3) Each machine may not contain more than 150 kg of UN1963, helium, refrigerated liquid.

b. Venting: Spring loaded pressure-relief devices are installed on the MRI systems, which open at a pre-set value and vent the excess gas. The pressure-relief devices must conform to paragraph 7.c. below.

c. OPERATIONAL CONTROLS: In place of the current requirements in Part 6, 5.1.3.6.5.1 of the ICAO TI the following provisions for pressure relief vessels are authorized under the terms of this approval:

(1) Each inner vessel of “low pressure” and “pressurized” packaging must be equipped with a safety relief valve set to open at a pressure that does not exceed 110 percent of the packaging service pressure.

(2) Each inner vessel of “low pressure” and “pressurized” packagings must also be equipped with a second relief device.

(3) If the relief device is a safety relief valve, its set-to-open pressure should not exceed 110 percent of the service pressure.

d. The shipper’s declaration shall include a 24-hour emergency response telephone number (including area code and international access code) for use in the even of an incident. This telephone number shall be monitored at all times during transportation, including storage incidental to transportation, by a person who is knowledgeable of the hazards and the characteristics of the goods, has comprehensive emergency response and

accident mitigation information or has immediate access to a person who possesses such knowledge and information. This telephone number shall be entered in the “Additional Handling Information” box after the statement “Emergency contact:”.

e. The package must be labeled with the cryogenic liquid label specified in Figure 5-31 of the ICAO TI. An indication that the package contains a cryogenic liquid must be included in the “Additional Handling Information box on the shipper’s declaration.

8. SPECIAL PROVISIONS:

a. Under the terms of this special permit, the grantee may only offer hazardous materials (i.e., the grantee is not authorized as a carrier).

b. A person who is not a holder of this special permit who receives a package covered by this special permit may reoffer it for transportation provided no modification or change is made to the package and it is offered for transportation in conformance with this special permit, the HMR, and the ICAO TI.

c. A current copy of this special permit must be maintained at each facility where the package is offered or reoffered for transportation.

d. Each package need not be marked with the special permit number.

e. The hazardous material listed in paragraph 6. may be offered for and transported aboard cargo-only aircraft under the terms of this special permit.

9. MODES OF TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZED: Cargo-only aircraft.

10. MODAL REQUIREMENTS: A current copy of this special permit must be carried aboard each aircraft used to transport packages covered by this special permit. The shipper must furnish a copy of this special permit to the air carrier before or at the time the shipment is tendered.

11. COMPLIANCE: Failure by a person to comply with any of the following may result in suspension or revocation of this special permit and penalties prescribed by the Federal hazardous materials transportation law, 49 U.S.C. 5101 et seq:

o All terms and conditions prescribed in this special permit and the Hazardous Materials Regulations, 49 CFR Parts 171-180.

o Persons operating under the terms of this special permit must comply with the security plan requirement in Subpart I of Part 172 of the HMR, when applicable.

- o Registration required by § 107.601 et seq., when applicable.

Each “Hazmat employee”, as defined in § 171.8, who performs a function subject to this special permit must receive training on the requirements and conditions of this special permit in addition to the training required by §§ 172.700 through 172.704.

No person may use or apply this special permit, including display of its number, when this special permit has expired or is otherwise no longer in effect.

Under Title VII of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) — “The Hazardous Materials Safety and Security Reauthorization Act of 2005” (Pub. L. 109-59), 119 Stat. 1144 (August 10, 2005), amended the Federal hazardous materials transportation law by changing the term “exemption” to “special permit” and authorizes a special permit to be granted up to two years for new special permits and up to four years for renewals.

12. **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:** Shipments or operations conducted under this special permit are subject to the Hazardous Materials Incident Reporting requirements specified in 49 CFR §§ 171.15 - Immediate notice of certain hazardous materials incidents, and 171.16 - Detailed hazardous materials incident reports. In addition, the grantee(s) of this special permit must notify the Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, in writing, of any incident involving a package, shipment or operation conducted under terms of this special permit.

Issued in Washington, D.C.:



for William Quade
Acting Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety

Address all inquiries to: Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, East Building PHH-6, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast, Washington, D.C. 20590.

Copies of this special permit may be obtained by accessing the Hazardous Materials Safety Homepage at <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/approvals-and-permits/hazmat/special-permits-search>. Photo reproductions and legible reductions of this special permit are permitted. Any alteration of this special permit is prohibited.

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