

Class I explosives are composed of various divisions—such as Division 1.1G, 1.3G, 1.4G, and 1.4S—and include fireworks. Their safe transportation in commerce is regulated by the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) (see 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 171-180).

Fireworks Shipments

- UN-certified packaging that is properly marked and labeled.
- A Shipping Paper that contains required information.
- Emergency response information.

Shippers and Carriers

- Ensure that all hazmat employees, including drivers, are properly trained.
- Obtain a USDOT Hazardous Materials Certificate of Registration when transporting fireworks in placarded quantities.
- Develop/implement security plans that, at a minimum, include risk assessment and address personnel and en-route security and unauthorized access.
- Possess a valid Hazardous Materials Safety Permit (HMSP) (carriers only) when transporting 55 lbs., or more, of 1.1G and 1.3G (49 CFR § 385.400).

Transport Vehicles

- Operated by a properly licensed driver with a CDL and hazmat endorsement for all placarded quantities.
- Properly placarded on all four sides.
- Secure all the contents of the firework shipment to brace, block, and prevent shifts.
- Display the company name and DOT number on doors of the motorized unit.

For More Information

Consult the HMR (49 CFR Parts 171-180) and 49 CFR Part 107, Subpart G, and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, FMCSR Parts 390-399 and 385 Subpart E.

Specific questions can be addressed to the Hazardous Materials Information Center: 1-800-467-4922 or (202) 366-4488.

Persons found to be in violation of the HMR may be subject to civil penalties, criminal penalties, and imprisonment. Maximum penalties depend on several factors, including the nature and circumstances, extent and gravity, and severity of the consequences of the violation. Civil penalties are set out in 49 U.S.C. § 5123, but the actual maximum civil penalties are updated annually due to inflation in accordance with the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990 and the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015.

Criminal violations of hazardous materials regulations can result in sentences of up to 10 years imprisonment and additional fines as specified in 49 U.S.C. § 5124.

The contents of this poster do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way, and the guide is intended only to provide information to the public regarding existing requirements under the Hazardous Materials Regulations.