



# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OUTREACH



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## HIGHLIGHTS

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- ◇ EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT
- ◇ HAWAII OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM
- ◇ NEW PUBLICATION
- ◇ HAZMATICS
- ◇ LPG SAFETY

## HAZMAT REGULATORY ASSISTANCE

Have a question regarding the transportation of hazmat or dangerous goods? Utilize the PHMSA Help Desk at **1-800-HMR-4922**. The help desk is staffed 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. (EST)

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

April Charnota was recently selected as the Senior Compliance Investigator with the PHMSA's Western Region Field Office. April is located in Los Angeles, CA, where she manages the region's System Integrity Safety Program (SISP). April specializes in the inspection of manufacturers who produce and import pressure vessels under Department of Transportation approvals.



Prior to joining PHMSA, April worked as Secretary to the Region Director for the Department of Commerce, and for the U.S. Census Bureau in LA April served 7 years in the U.S. Army as a Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Specialist, and as a Command Advisor for that division where she managed and implemented training programs for multiple battalions. She also served as a company trainer for the Republic of Korea Army and was deployed to *Operation Iraqi Freedom* in 2003. April earned her Master's Degree in Liberal and Integrative Studies from the Univ. of Illinois in 2016.

## CALL TO LEADERSHIP

PHMSA borrows a leader from a sister agency within DOT to fill a vital role. Ms. Bernetta Collins joins PHMSA as acting Deputy Associate Administrator for Field Operations. Ms. Collins comes to PHMSA from the Federal Highway Administration where she serves as Director of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Resource Center. As Director, Ms. Collins leads a staff of up to 150 technical specialists and administrative personnel including professional specialty teams in areas including Structures, Geotechnical, Hydraulics, Construction, Finance, Environment, and Air Quality. She also manages marketing, communication and mission support staff that directly support her and the Resource Center. Her technical staff supports Federal, State, and local partners while she sets the overall and strategic direction for the teams and the office. FHWA Resource Center operates remotely, and nationwide and is responsible for



providing expert-level technical assistance, customized training, and advancing state-of-the-art as well as state-of-the-practice surface transportation technologies. Ms. Collins joined FHWA in 2005 from Colorado State government where she was Director of the Office of Regulatory Reform within the Department of Regulatory Agencies. She also worked with the Colorado Department of Transportation where she held several leadership positions including Director of the Office of Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Certification. Ms. Collins is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force where she served with distinction as an electrician in the Civil Engineering Squadron. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Management.





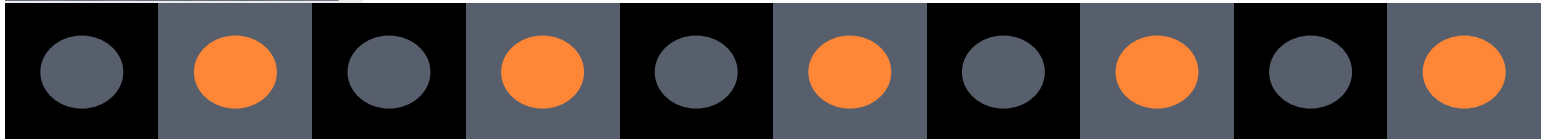
## **HAWAII OUTREACH EVENT**

### **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SYMPOSIUM**

#### **COMING EARLY 2019**



The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) Western Region is hosting a multi-modal event on Oahu early 2019. Be sure to keep checking their website and this newsletter's upcoming editions for more details. How to navigate and utilize the Title 49 CFR for shipping hazardous materials, air, highway and water mode specifics, and DOT enforcement information are just a few of the topics on the agenda. If there are topics, concerning the hazardous materials rules or other shipping concerns, you would like covered, please feel free to send an email to the Western Region Outreach staff at [earl.whitley@dot.gov](mailto:earl.whitley@dot.gov) or [brandon.westbrook@dot.gov](mailto:brandon.westbrook@dot.gov); either will be happy to discuss your topic and see if they can add it to the agenda.



## **INCIDENT REPORTING**

The Hazardous Materials Incident Communication System (HAZMATICS) is an innovative, intuitive, comprehensive system for reporting hazardous material incidents. We've implemented HAZMATICS with modernized capabilities that provide further automation, improved efficiencies, and a better user experience.

Incident reports are required by law and must be submitted to PHMSA. 49 CFR 171.15 and .16 lay out when an incident report is required.

Together we can protect people and the environment by advancing the safe transportation of energy and other hazardous materials that are essential to our daily lives.

For more information, email: [phmsaHAZMATICS@dot.gov](mailto:phmsaHAZMATICS@dot.gov)



- ◆ You may now report an incident online using HAZMATICS.
- ◆ HAZMATICS has business rule validation, built-in user guidance (including tools, tips, and an instruction booklet), and a new user interface.
- ◆ Users can upload supporting documentation.
- ◆ You can now save a report to return to it later as well as view your previous drafts and submitted reports.
- ◆ Workgroups can access reports, with a single owner.
- ◆ Users automatically get reminders about incomplete reports.

## **HAZMATICS VIDEOS**

PHMSA has developed the following video tutorials for the use of HAZMATICS on the PHMSA YouTube Channel:

### **HAZMATICS OVERVIEW**

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/RNsUhPgnXoQ>

### **CREATE A WORKGROUP**

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/craRMXcYyTY>

### **CREATE ROUTINE INCIDENT**

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/2RclZkU54I0>

### **INCIDENT WITH MULTIPLE COMMODITIES / SHIPPERS**

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/678FHBq5gyQ>



## NEW PHMSA PUBLICATION

### Hazmat Transportation Requirements

PHMSA's Outreach and Engagement staff has developed a new publication titled *Hazmat Transportation Requirements* that outlines the basics of shipping hazardous materials. This publication does not replace the regulations, but does cover the fundamentals of offering hazardous materials into transportation. Training requirements, utilizing the Hazardous Materials Table, Hazard Communication, including Shipping Papers, and Packaging selection are all covered.

Thinking of becoming a Hazardous Materials shipper? This guide is a key first step in discovering the necessary regulatory requirements of becoming a certified Hazmat Shipper.

Each publication also comes with a DOT Chart 16 insert that you may hang in your workplace to remind your employees, hazmat employees or not, how to recognize potential Hazardous Material shipments. The DOT Chart 16 displays the latest approved Markings, Labels and Placards in simple, easy-to-read pictograms.

This publication is coming to our website soon; find it on our publications link [here](#). You can also find other extremely helpful publica-



tions created by PHMSA for the Hazardous Materials Shipping and carrier community at that same PHMSA publications link.

PHMSA's Outreach, Engagement and Grants Division is dedicated to helping the general public navigate the technical regulations with ease. Consider visiting PHMSA's publication website as well as PHMSA's website as a whole to learn more about the agency, hazardous materials safety,

## REMINDER.....

Current DOT regulations require initial and recurrent training of all employees who perform work functions covered by the regulations. Any employee whose work directly affects hazmat transportation safety is required to undergo training.

PHMSA has developed training modules that meet the requirements for general awareness and general security training as prescribed in 49 CFR, Part 172, Subpart H.

The Hazardous Materials Transportation Training Modules contain an interactive training program for individual instruction. The training modules are available at: <http://dothazmat.vividlms.com>

## Did You Know?



The correct term is "civil penalties," not "fines." Federal hazardous materials law has set \$50,000 as the maximum civil penalty that may be assessed for a violation with \$250 as the minimum civil penalty, except for training violations, which are set at a minimum of \$450. If an inspection has revealed violations warranting the initiation of a civil penalty enforcement case, the matter is referred to PHMSA's Office of Chief Counsel.

An Office of Chief Counsel attorney then prepares a Notice of Probable Violation, proposing a civil penalty. The company may respond to this Notice by paying the penalty or providing information in its defense.

If the company does not pay the penalty, then its information is evaluated. If the Chief Counsel determines the penalty should be assessed, an Order is issued that makes a formal finding of violation and assesses a civil penalty.

If a company still does not pay the penalty, debt collection procedures are initiated.

Current Penalty Guidelines can be found in Title 49 CFR Appendix A to Subpart D of Part 107— [Guidelines for Civil Penalties](#).





**Is HazMatt hiding in your package?**

He may seem nice, but watch out—HazMatt can also be toxic, corrosive, and even explosive if he's handled inappropriately when transported. Always **CHECK THE BOX** for HazMatt and don't forget his friends: batteries, lighters, hairspray, and more. If you find them, remember to ensure they're being sent with the proper packaging, marking, and labeling by notifying your shipper. These items are important to our daily lives, but they can really be a handful!

**CHECK THE BOX**

Need assistance with identifying hazardous materials or any hazardous material transportation regulations? Contact the Hazardous Materials Information Center by phone 1-800-467-4922 or 202-366-4488 or email [infoctr@dot.gov](mailto:infoctr@dot.gov). [checkthebox.dot.gov](http://checkthebox.dot.gov)

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

## UNDECLARED HAZMATT SHIPMENT INITIATIVE

Approximately 1500 incidents occur every year due to undeclared hazmat in the transportation system. This is highly concerning to all involved, from the shipper to the recipient and everyone in between. According to the federal regulations, it is incumbent on the shipper to identify and properly classify hazardous materials prior to shipment. Businesses that routinely ship hazardous materials are aware of these regulations and are diligent about following the rules and regulations.

Introducing Hazmatt, (with two t's) the adorable little guy that is the new animated character who is here to educate the general public on what hazmat is, and how to identify common items that are considered hazmat. Learning from Hazmatt is simple, visit [www.checkthebox.dot.gov](http://www.checkthebox.dot.gov) and browse the helpful material provided. Being able to identify items in your shipment, even for personal reasons, can help reduce or even eliminate undeclared haz-

mat in the transportation system. You can also watch a short [video](#) learning about what Hazmatt and his friends are up to in teaching the general public about undeclared hazmat.

Also on the website, you can download and print helpful materials that you can share and distribute to family and friends. Please follow the 6 steps listed to help you determine if you have hazmat in your shipment prior to offering to a carrier such as FedEx, UPS or even the U.S. Postal Service. It is important to note that most U.S. mail is carried around the country by airlines such as Delta, American and United with passengers onboard. Shipping undeclared hazmat puts lives at risk and poses a threat to the safety and security of the aircraft.

This initiative was developed in cooperation with the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA), US Postal Service, FedEx, UPS, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Federal Rail Administration (FRA), Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), US. Coast Guard and many other interested parties to enhance the safety of our transportation system and minimize the risk to the general public by means of education. Knowledge is power.

### Did you know that many consumer products we use every day are hazardous materials?



#### Beauty Products

Including essential oils, perfumes/colognes, and haircare products.



#### Paint

Including household paints, spray paints, and inks. This also includes paint-related products such as wood stains, paint thinners/removers, and sealants.



#### Dry Ice

Including food, medical, or other perishable shipments containing dry ice.



#### Lithium Batteries

Including portable chargers/power banks and all devices powered by lithium batteries such as laptops, cell phones, and other consumer electronics.



#### Cleaning Products

Including aerosol sprays, bleaches, and swimming pool chemicals.



#### Home & Garden Products

Including ammonium nitrate fertilizers/fertilizer compounds, insecticides, and other pest control products.



#### Pressure Containers & Refrigerants

Including scuba tanks, fire extinguishers, and any aerosol spray receptacle, even those containing food products or other non-hazardous substances. Refrigerants can include any refrigerated liquid such as liquid nitrogen, carbon dioxide, and argon.



#### Explosive Items

Including consumer or novelty fireworks, ammunition, and gun powders.



#### Other Common Household Items

Including fuels and camping equipment or other fuel-powered equipment, alcohols, matches/lighters, smoke detectors, and car batteries/other automotive products.



Please contact our Hazmat Info Center Hotline at 1-800-HMR-4922 or [infoctr@dot.gov](mailto:infoctr@dot.gov) for any hazardous materials questions you may have or help in identifying a hazardous material prior to shipment.

Follow us on Twitter:

@USDOT

@PHMSA\_DOT

YouTube:

Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

**Because HazMatt has friends you might not expect.**



**CHECK THE BOX**

# LPG SAFETY

## No Refill for 1 lb., Cylinders

*"Everett, WA,  
fire  
investigators  
determined the  
fire that killed a  
coffee stand  
owner started  
because she was  
refilling a small  
propane  
cylinder from a  
20-pound tank  
to fuel her  
portable  
heater."*

*-Fox Q13 News Staff*

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration



# STOP!



**DO NOT REFILL**  
SMALL 1LB CYLINDERS  
INTENDED FOR **ONE TIME**  
USE ONLY!

CONTACT A QUALIFIED REFILLER  
TO DETERMINE IF A CYLINDER  
CAN BE FILLED PROPERLY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE HAZMAT INFO CENTER:

 1-800-467-4922  
E-mail: [infocntr@dot.gov](mailto:infocntr@dot.gov)  
<http://hazmat.dot.gov>



Knowing your propane or Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) cylinder is very important to your safety and those around you. In 2016, a woman was tragically killed due to an explosion at a small coffee stand. In order to keep warm using a portable heater and, in order to keep it refueled, she attempted to refill the small 1 lb., cylinder using a 20 lb., cylinder with a small fitting in between.

This happens all too often as this *incorrect refilling process* is demonstrated time and again on YouTube and uploaded onto the Internet. DOT has regulatory authority of the design and manufacture of these 1 lb., cylinders, also known as DOT 39s. They are specifically designed to be used once and disposed of or recycled. The stress of emptying and refilling weakens the already thin walls of the cylinder.

***DOT cautions the public to never refill 1 lb., cylinders.***