



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Research and  
Special Programs  
Administration**

400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

JAN 11 1999

Ms. Elaine Walicky  
Sales and Administrative Services  
Bell Container Corporation  
615 Ferry Street  
Newark, NJ 07105

Ref. No. 98-0341

Dear Ms. Walicky:

This is in response to your letter of November 13, 1998, requesting clarification of the requirements for manufacturing UN standard packagings under the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR parts 171-180). Specifically you ask whether you may reproduce a packaging that was originally manufactured by a different company as long as you reproduce the exact specifications listed on the certification.

Generally, no; if any component of a packaging differs in any way from the packaging that was originally design certified, the packaging is a "different packaging" as defined in § 178.601(c)(4) and must be retested. An exception would be where the manufacturer can establish that the packaging is virtually identical (for example fiberboard must have the same burst strength, edge crush resistance, water absorption rate, board weight, manner of construction etc.). In addition, as provided by § 178.601(l) the test report for each packaging must be maintained at each location where the packaging is manufactured and each location where the periodic retests are conducted until such tests are successfully performed again and a new test report is produced.

I hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

Delmer F. Billings  
Chief, Standards Development  
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards

NEW JERSEY PHONE  
(973) 344-4400  
FAX (973) 344-0817

NEW YORK PHONE  
(212) 964-0900

98-0341

# Bell Container Corp.

Manufacturers of CORRUGATED SHIPPING CONTAINERS  
615 FERRY STREET, NEWARK, N.J. 07105

LaValle  
§ 178.601

November 13, 1998

Attn: Edward Mazzullo  
U.S. Department of Transportation (US DOT)  
Washington, D.C.  
VIA FACSIMILE  
(202) 366-3012

Dear Mr. Mazzullo:

Re: Our telephone conversation with Diane Leville on this date regarding the manufacturing of U.N. Certification corrugated cartons.

It is our understanding from the referenced telephone conversation with Ms. Leville, that we are not required to retest a U.N. Certified carton manufactured by a different manufacturer, as long as we can reproduce the exact specs listed on the Certification.

We need this information in writing, at your earliest convenience, and would appreciate your faxing it to us at (973) 344-0817.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Very truly yours,

BELL CONTAINER CORP.

Elaine Walicky,  
General Manager,  
Sales and Administrative Services