



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Research and
Special Programs
Administration**

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

OCT 22 2003

Mr. Andrew N. Romach
URS Corporation
1600 Perimeter Park Drive
Morrisville, NC 27560

Ref. No. 03-0258


Dear Mr. Romach:

This is in response to your letter dated October 8, 2003 concerning the requirement for the shipper's certification under the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180). Specifically you asked whether a shipper's certification may be signed with a company name.

The answer is no. The shipper's certification specified in § 172.204 must be legibly signed by a principal, officer, partner, or employee of the shipper or his agent (§172.204(d)).

I hope this satisfies your request.

Sincerely,



John A. Gale
Transportation Regulations Specialist
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards



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URS

BAH
§172.204(a)
Shipping Papers
03-0258

October 8, 2003

Mr. Ed Mazzullo, Director
Office of Hazardous Material Standards
Research and Special Programs Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
400 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590-0001
FAX: (202) 366-3012

Dear Mr. Mazzullo:

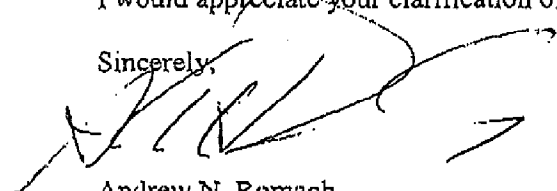
I am writing to you to request a written regulatory interpretation concerning an acceptable shipper's certification on a hazardous material bill of lading. Does DOT accept the mechanically generated name of the company as the shipper's certification? 49 CFR 172.204(a) states that "each person who offers a hazardous material for transportation shall certify that the material is offered in accordance with this subchapter by printing (manually or mechanically) on the shipping paper containing the required shipping description the certification...."

The definition of person found in 49 CFR 171.8 reads as follows: "Person means an individual, firm, copartnership, corporation, company....that transports a hazardous material to further a commercial enterprise or offers a hazardous material for transportation in commerce...."

Because the definition of "Person" includes a company as well as an individual, and because 49 CFR 172.204(a) allows a mechanically generated signature, it appears to me that the mechanically generated name of the company (rather than an individual's name representing that company) would be an acceptable shipper's certification.

I would appreciate your clarification of this question.

Sincerely,



Andrew N. Romach
Regulatory Manager
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