

Dangerous goods guidance note 5: Limited Quantities

1. RID and ADR permit some dangerous goods to be packaged in small quantities: provided the goods are packaged and labelled in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 3.4, then they are exempt from all other provisions of RID and ADR.
2. The LQ provisions do not apply to explosives (Class 1), radioactive materials (Class 7) or infectious substances (Class 6.2).

How do I find out if the LQ provisions apply to my dangerous goods?

3. Check the Dangerous Goods List in Chapter 3.2. Look up the entry for the dangerous goods you want to carry. If there is more than one entry for a particular dangerous good then check the additional information (usually in column 2 or 4, where Packing Group is derived from the classification criteria of Chapter 2.2) to make sure you select the right entry.
4. If an LQ provision applies, an LQ code of 1 to 29 will be shown in column 7. Dangerous goods with a code of LQ0 cannot be carried under the limited quantity provisions.

What are the LQ provisions?

5. The LQ codes are explained in the table in Chapter 3.4.6. They give the maximum quantity of dangerous goods per inner package and per outer package or shrink-wrapped tray. This is because dangerous goods carried under the LQ provisions must be packed in an inner packaging and the inner packagings must then be placed in an outer package or in shrink-wrapped trays.
6. Chapter 3.4 also sets out the relevant type of packaging and marking for each LQ Code.

Is there anything else I need to be aware of when considering using the LQ provisions?

7. ADR and RID are updated every two years. Authorisation 7 under Regulation 36(7) of the Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2004 allows industry to anticipate certain changed provisions of the 2005 editions of ADR/RID in advance of these being brought into effect by the next Carriage Regulations.
8. For the LQ provisions, this means that many LQ codes will have a higher threshold applying to the total mass of the outer package/shrink-wrapped tray.
9. However, note that for some LQ codes (or, where certain LQ codes are to no longer be assigned, the new LQ codes pertaining to those dangerous goods), the provisions under 2005 ADR/RID are more stringent than under the current edition: for example, some goods would no longer be able to be carried under the LQ provisions. You may therefore wish to check both versions of ADR/RID in order to arrive at the more favourable provision for the particular dangerous goods you want to carry.
10. Note also that carriage under the terms of this Authorisation is restricted to Great Britain.

How do the new LQ provisions differ from the Carriage of Dangerous Goods (Classification, Packaging and Labelling) and Use of Transportable Pressure Receptacles Regulations 1996 (CDGCPL) and the Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road Regulations 1996 (CDGRoad)?

11. CDGCPL and CDGRoad had similar provisions, but there are differences for some dangerous goods. An initial analysis of the changes identified some increases and some reductions, but overall it did not highlight any significant changes.

Dangerous goods guidance note 5: Limited Quantities

12. If you want to compare for particular dangerous goods: firstly follow paragraph 3 above for the new provisions. For the CDGRoad provisions you then need to check:
 - the Approved Carriage List for the classification and Packing Group
 - Table 1 of CDGRoad Schedule 1 for the Transport Category
 - Table 2 of CDGRoad Schedule 1 for the quantity of dangerous goods per receptacle