

LOAD THRESHOLDS FOR CARRIAGE BY ROAD: CLASSES 2 TO 6, 8 AND 9: ADR SECTION 1.1.3.6

Background

ADR permits exemptions from some of the requirements for Transport Units carrying small quantities of dangerous goods. The exemptions apply only to packaged dangerous goods

The term 'limited quantities' is sometimes used to refer to the small quantities of packaged dangerous goods set out in ADR 1.1.3.6. To avoid confusion, use of this term is best restricted to the limited quantity (LQ) provisions of ADR 3.4 - see guidance note

How do I find out if the load threshold applies to my dangerous goods?

Dangerous goods are allocated to Transport Categories. 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 column 2 and other relevant columns to make sure you have selected the right entry.

The Transport Category is shown in column 15. Dangerous goods in Transport Category 0 do not qualify for any of the exemptions listed in 1.1.3.6.2.

The load threshold for each Transport Category is given in the Table in ADR 1.1.3.6.3. There is also a formula to help you work out whether or not your dangerous goods fall under or over the load thresholds for dangerous goods in different Transport Categories..

If you have obtained ADR 2003 on CD-Rom you may wish to copy then amend the Excel version of the Dangerous Goods List -so that it contains only those dangerous goods whose carriage you are involved with; a column could then be added giving the appropriate threshold value from the Table in ADR 1.1.3.6.3 - in order to avoid having to refer to the Table each time. (The first time you do this, remember to incorporate any corrections from the Corrigenda, since the published texts do not take account of these.)

What are the exemptions?

ADR 1.1.3.6.2 lists the following exemptions for loads of packaged dangerous goods below the threshold –

Chapter 5.3	Placarding and marking of containers and vehicles
Section 5.4.3	Instructions in Writing
Chapter 7.2	Provisions concerning carriage in packages <u>except for</u> 7.2.4 V5 - prohibition on small containers 7.2.4 V7 - ventilation 7.2.4 V8 - requirements for substances stabilized by temperature control
7.5.11 CV1	Loading/unloading in a public place

Part 8	Requirements for vehicle crews, equipment, operation and documentation <u>except for</u> 8.1.2.1(a) + (c) Transport document + texts of any relevant Special Agreements** 8.1.4.2 – 8.1.4.5 Fire fighting equipment and miscellaneous equipment 8.2.3 General training 8.3.4 Prohibition on lighting apparatus comprising a flame 8.4 Supervision of vehicles 8.5 S2(1) Flammable liquids/gases: Prohibition on portable lamps 8.5 S4: Additional requirements for carriage under controlled temperatures 8.5 S14-21 Supervision of vehicles
Part 9	Requirements concerning the construction and approval of vehicles

** for domestic carriage, carriers are also exempt from 8.1.2.1(a) + (c) See Regulation 3(7)(a)(i)

How do the new load thresholds differ from CDGRoad

CDGRoad had similar provisions in that dangerous goods are allocated to a Transport Category, but for mixed loads the threshold for the most restrictive Transport Category applied. Some dangerous goods may be in different Transport Categories, but the thresholds for Transport Categories 2 and 3 are now higher - 333 and 1,000 instead of 200 and 500 respectively and this coupled with the formula for mixed loads is generally more favourable.

The exemptions for packaged dangerous below the CDGRoad thresholds were set out in CDGRoad, Schedule 2 Paragraph 6 and are broadly similar to the ADR exemptions.

Corresponding exemptions for driver training and DGSAs were set out in DTR Regulation 2(1)(a)(ii)(add) to (gg); and DGSA Schedule 1, Paragraph 2(c).