

Novel H1N1 Influenza (Swine Flu) Information



WHAT IS NOVEL H1N1?

Influenza A H1N1 virus is a flu virus of swine origin that first caused illness in the United States in April, 2009. The H1N1 Flu virus has now spread throughout the U.S. and countries around the world. The CDC expects that illnesses may continue for some time. Please read below for important H1N1 information.

HOW IS H1N1 FLU SPREAD?

H1N1 Flu is mainly spread through large-particle respiratory droplet transmission (coughs and sneezes). This transmission requires close contact between each contact because droplets do not remain suspended in the air and generally only travel up to six feet. Transmission can also happen by touching infected objects and then touching your nose or mouth.

SYMPTOMS

The symptoms of H1N1 Flu are similar to those of regular seasonal influenza and will usually appear 1-4 days after a person is infected.

HOW DO YOU KNOW IF YOU HAVE THE H1N1 FLU?

An employee cannot tell just by the symptoms listed previously, as these symptoms are also found in regular seasonal influenza. However, if you have been in an area where the H1N1 Flu has been confirmed or if you have been exposed to a person with the flu, then any flu-like symptoms should be treated by a doctor.

HOW IS THE H1N1 FLU TREATED?

It is important to consult your healthcare provider if you exhibit symptoms of the H1N1 Flu. H1N1 Flu is treated in the same way as regular flu, with good hygiene and plenty of rest at home. Treatment may also include an antiviral medication, if started early and prescribed by a physician. The medications useful for preventing and treating this strain of H1N1 are Relenza® and Tamiflu®. These prescription drugs fight against the H1N1 flu by keeping the virus from reproducing in your body. Treatment works best if started within 2 days of symptoms.

Note: The seasonal influenza vaccine does not protect humans from H1N1 Flu.

Lithium Battery Shipping Descriptions

On Tuesday, August 25, 2009, PHMSA issued Notice of Approval: Lithium Battery Shipping Descriptions. This Federal Register authorizes persons who offer lithium metal and lithium ion cells and batteries to describe them using the international proper shipping names.

DOT currently has only 3 entries for Lithium Batteries in the Hazardous Materials Table. The international regulations have 6. The international shipping descriptions and UN identification numbers differentiate between lithium metal batteries (primary; non-rechargeable) and lithium ion batteries (secondary; rechargeable).

PHMSA is currently working on a rulemaking intended to enhance the safe transportation of lithium batteries and are considering adoption of the international shipping descriptions. In the interim and to facilitate commerce, PHMSA believes shippers should be permitted to use the international lithium battery shipping descriptions for domestic transportation of lithium batteries even though the shipping descriptions have not been adopted in the HMR.

The effective date is the date of publication of the notice, August 25, 2009.

H1N1 FLU continued

These guidelines are based on recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). For more information on H1N1 Flu and seasonal influenza, consult these websites.



Recent Industry Issues

Shipping a limited quantity of radioactive material can be tricky sometimes. Watch out for the markings that you purchase!

Take a second look at the “RADIOACTIVE” marking.

Does this marking meet the marking requirement in 49 CFR 173.421?



How many placards are allowed with the identification number?

How many proper shipping names and identification numbers are allowed per package?

I hope you answered with “one!”

The placarding subpart in 49 CFR only allows one.

How many inches can an intermodal container move in the vertical direction when on a container chassis style trailer?

This was too much according to 49 CFR 393.126.

Be careful when securing your loads and ensure all the components are in good working condition.

The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing. -Edmund Burke*



Frequently Asked Questions - FAQ is a new column that summarizes the questions and answers in DOT letters of interpretation. This quarter's topic is on the emergency response telephone for shipping papers.

➤ **How quickly do I need access to a person that is knowledgeable of the shipment?**

Reference # 00-0280 and 01-0176

NRC IN 92-62 states up to 15 minutes is satisfactory, but for DOT responses that is not acceptable. DOT states that only a "few" minutes is acceptable for an emergency responder to wait for incident mitigation information.

➤ **Can I list more than one telephone number on the shipping papers?**

Reference # 01-0018 and 06-0056

Yes you can, as long as both numbers meet the monitoring requirements. They can even be for a specific time period of the day, like one for normal business hours and the other for evenings and weekends. You will need to specify the hours and time zone for each.

➤ **Must the telephone number be continuously monitored even during layovers and/or shipping outside the borders of the USA?** *Reference # 01-0159*

Yes, the monitoring requirements remain in effect until the shipment reaches its designation.

➤ **Does the person answering the phone need to provide more information than what is in the ERG and on the shipping papers?** *Reference # 01-0176*

Yes, the person should be much more knowledgeable.

➤ **Can the phone call require a single button patch to another phone number?** *Reference # 05-0091*

Yes, as long as it is only a one-stroke patch through to a person that has comprehensive emergency response and incident mitigation information.



Featured Cask this quarter:

The top loading 14-190H cask is designed to accommodate fourteen drums or a single steel or polyethylene liner. The cask uses ratchet binders for easy primary lid removal and replacement. It is fitted with a bolted secondary lid for in-cask processing. The cask is capable of handling payloads up to 20,000 pounds and is certified to meet the DOT requirements as a 7A, IP-1 and IP-2 package.

Classification: DOT 7A Type A, IP-1 and IP-2

Internal Dimensions: 75.25"D x 73.38"H

Drum Capacity: 14 (55-gal)

PB Shielding Equivalence: 3.50 inches

Approximate Maximum R/Hr based on 10% Cobalt 60: 21

Approximate Maximum Empty Weight (lbs): 45,200

Maximum Payload (lbs): 20,000

4th Quarter Training Courses

Date	Training Session	Location
The following courses meet the requirements of NRC IE Notice 79-19.		
October 19 - 22	4-Day DOT/NRC Hazardous Waste/Mixed Waste Training	Columbia, SC
November 2 – 5 November 6	4-Day DOT/NRC Basic Radioactive Waste Packaging, Transportation & Disposal ½-Day A.M. IATA and ½-Day P.M. FMC Load Securement	Hilton Head Island, SC
December 7 - 11	5-Day DOT/NRC Basic Radioactive Waste Packaging, Transportation & Disposal Training for New Shippers Training	Columbia, SC
All of the following courses meet both DOE and DOT requirements.		
Oct 8	General Awareness	Richland, WA
Oct 12 - 15	Advanced Mixed Waste	Richland, WA
Oct 13	FMCSR for Drivers	Richland, WA
Oct 14	HAZMAT Drivers	Richland, WA
Oct 15	Highway Route Control Quantity Training	Richland, WA
Oct 19 – 21	Basic Hazardous Materials (Mod 1)	Richland, WA
Oct 21	Basic Hazardous Waste (Mod 2)	Richland, WA
Oct 22 - 23	Basic Radioactive Materials (Mod 3)	Richland, WA
Oct 20 – 22	Advanced Hazardous Waste	Las Vegas, NV
Oct 27	FMCSR for Drivers	Richland, WA
Oct 27 – 28	Advanced Hazardous Materials	Las Vegas, NV
Oct 28	Load Securement	Richland, WA
Nov 2 – 3	Explosives Training for Drivers	Richland, WA
Nov 3	HAZMAT Drivers	Richland, WA
Nov 3	General Awareness	Las Vegas, NV
Nov 4 – 6	Dangerous Goods Regulations (IATA)	Richland, WA
Nov 4	General Awareness	Richland, WA
Nov 4	FMCSR for Drivers	Las Vegas, NV
Nov 5	HAZMAT Drivers	Las Vegas, NV
Nov 10 – 12	Advanced Radioactive Material	Richland, WA
Nov 18	Reasonable Suspicion	Richland, WA
Nov 19	General Awareness	Richland, WA
Nov 30 – Dec 2	Basic Hazardous Materials (Mod 1)	Richland, WA
Dec 2	Basic Hazardous Waste (Mod 2)	Richland, WA
Dec 3 – 4	Basic Radioactive Materials (Mod 3)	Richland, WA
Dec 1 – 3	Advanced Radioactive Material	Las Vegas, NV
Dec 2	General Awareness	Richland, WA
Dec 8	FMCSR for Drivers	Richland, WA
Dec 8 – 10	Dangerous Goods Regulations (IATA)	Las Vegas, NV
Dec 9	Highway Route Control Quantity Training	Richland, WA
Dec 15 - 16	Advanced Hazardous Materials	Richland, WA

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