

PHMSA Temporary Policy for Transporting Hand Sanitizers

On April 2, 2020, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) issued a temporary relief notice specific to certain hand sanitizer products. The PHMSA temporary relief notice can be found on the PHMSA website at: <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/news/revISED-temporary-relief-notice-companies-transporting-hand-sanitizer-highway>.

This temporary relief is only applicable to hand sanitizer shipments moved by a surface mode of transportation. PHMSA is providing relief outlined in the notice to companies producing hand sanitizer as a result of the current COVID-19 public health emergency. This guidance is only applicable to companies producing hand sanitizer product under the FDA guidance document referenced in the PHMSA relief notice and for companies that subsequently transport that hand sanitizer. **Hand sanitizer shipments prepared under the PHMSA temporary relief notice can only be offered to FedEx Ground.** The PHMSA temporary relief notice does not provide any relief for hand sanitizer shipments transported by air and **these shipments should not be offered to FedEx Express.**

Exempt Limited Quantity Shipments by Air

Hand sanitizer shipments meeting the criteria in 49CFR 173.150 (g) may be offered as a nonregulated or nonhazardous shipment under this exception to FedEx Express.

In order to use the 49CFR exception for ethyl alcohol products containing not more than 70% ethyl alcohol by volume for liquids, a shipment must meet these and the General Shipping Requirements below:

- ✓ When shipping in glass inner receptacle, each glass inner receptacle contains 8 ounces (0.063 gallons/0.23 liters) or less of hand sanitizer.
Note: Glass inner receptacles may be shipped up to 16 ounces (0.125 gallons/0.47 liters) with the company name and the words "Contains Ethyl Alcohol" marked on the package.
- ✓ When shipping in non-glass inner receptacle, each non-glass inner receptacle contains 16 ounces (0.125 gallons/0.47 liters) or less of hand sanitizer.

For shipments containing more than 70% ethyl alcohol by volume for liquids, a shipment must meet this and the General Shipping Requirements below:

- ✓ The inner receptacle contains 8 ounces (0.063 gallons/0.23 liters) or less of hand sanitizer.

General Shipping Requirements

- ✓ Applies to U.S. domestic shipments only.
- ✓ Total net quantity of hand sanitizer is 192 ounces (1.5 gallons/5.6 liters) or less per package.
- ✓ Gross package weight is 66 pounds (29.9 kgs) or less per package. Gross package weight is determined by weighing the final prepared package.
- ✓ Inner packagings must be secured and cushioned within the outer package to prevent breakage, leakage and movement during transportation. Inner packagings are packed with package closures in an upright orientation.

Complete 49 CFR regulation can be found at: <https://www.govregs.com/regulations/49/173.150>

Important reminder: All shipments to or from a country other than the U.S. must be offered under IATA/ICAO regulations when offered to FedEx Express. **The 49CFR 173.150 (g) exception listed above is for U.S. domestic shipments only.**

Questions can be directed to the FedEx Dangerous Goods/Hazardous Materials Hotline at 1.800.Go.FedEx 1.800.463.3339, press silent prompt "81" (or say dangerous goods), then press "4" for the next available Dangerous Goods (DG) Agent.

Additional Important Links

PHMSA Covid-19 Public Assistance website:

<https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/news/news/assistance-public-during-covid-19>

<https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/news/phmsa-issues-temporary-relief-companies-transporting-hand-sanitizer-highway>

PHMSA Presentation outlining the temporary relief:

<https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/news/presentation-phmsa-guidance-shipping-alcohol-based-hand-sanitizer>

Questions can be addressed directly to PHMSA via email: phmsa.publicaffairs@dot.gov or by calling 202-366-4831

FedEx Ground guidance can be found: <https://www.fedex.com/en-us/service-guide/hazardous-materials/resources.html>

FedEx Express guidance can be found at: https://www.fedex.com/content/dam/fedex/us-united-states/services/DG_Title_49CFR.pdf