

Customer Advisory 24 May 2016

Implementation of Verified Gross Mass (VGM) as per SOLAS VI Regulation 2 amendment

Dear Valued Customer,

This is to inform all stakeholders that the Amendment in SOLAS Convention Chapter VI Part-A Regulation-2 (MSC.1/Circ.1475) will be in force from June 15 2016.

The SOLAS requirements to verify the gross weight of a packed export container shall apply to all packed export containers to which the IMO's Convention for Safe Containers (CSC) applies and which are to be loaded onto any ship in international maritime traffic.

Pre-advice

The responsibility of obtaining and documenting the Verified Gross Mass (VGM) lies with the shipper who is named on the ocean carrier's bill of lading. Furthermore, packed export container(s) shall not be gated-in without a VGM and in the event where the VGM was obtained by an external provider, the VGM shall be communicated to APMT Bahrain in a form of EDI or excel to e-mail address cctbah@apmterminals.com. APMT Bahrain advises to use the EDI format. The VGM is to be send by the container operator prior to gate-in by minimum of one hour.

Method 1

APMT Bahrain provides a weighing service which can be used to obtain a VGM. Current process is that the truck loaded with one (1) packed export container weighs at the outer weighbridge prior to gate-in. After delivery of the container in the yard the truck needs to weigh prior to gate-out using the inner weighbridge and proceed to gate-out. If the truck needs to do more than one transaction after gate-out the truck is to start a new transaction. Other weighing solutions may be considered based upon market demand.

Method 2

Any container stuffed in the terminal will have to have the below requirements in order to generate a VGM as per method 2:

- 1- Original sealed packages
- 2- Cargo that have been previously weighed
- 3- Cargo with the accurate mass clearly and permanently marked on their surfaces

VGM based upon method 2 will then consist of adding up: weight of the cargo + tare weight of the container + all packing material.

Charges as per tariff shall be applicable and will be communicated shortly.

When the port is required to generate the VGM, the truck is required to go over both weighbridges (IN and OUT) and shall not be gated out if the truck does not use the second weighbridge

For further clarification please contact our customer service manager,

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