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SOLAS

SOLAS VERIFIED GROSS MASS (VGM)

MANDATORY SUBMISSION OF VERIFIED GROSS MASS BY SHIPPER

A. SOLAS REQUIREMENTS

Effective July 1, 2016, the Safety of Life at Sea Convention of 1974 (“SOLAS”) requires that the person named as shipper

on the ocean carrier bill of lading or equivalent document and/or who has concluded a contract of carriage with Carrier

(hereinafter, the “Shipper”) provide Carrier with the verified gross mass (“VGM”) of containers to be transported by

vessel. Under SOLAS, the Shipper may obtain the VGM by either (1) weighing the packed container using calibrated and

certified equipment; or (2) weighing all packages and cargo items, including the mass of pallets, dunnage and other

securing material to be packed in the container and adding the tare mass of the container to the sum of the single masses,

using a certified method approved by the competent authority of the jurisdiction in which packing of the container was

completed. SOLAS requires the VGM be submitted to the Carrier sufficiently in advance to be used in preparation of the

vessel stowage plan. SOLAS prohibits Carrier from loading containers for which no VGM is provided.

B. PROVISION OF VGM

1. Time for Submitting VGM - In order to enable Carrier to comply with the requirements of SOLAS described above, Shipper

must provide Carrier with the VGM of cargo tendered to Carrier as per cutoff times published on the Carrier’s website.

2. Form of VGM - Formats of VGM submission are as published on the Carrier’s website.

C. FAILURE TO SUBMIT VGM

In the event Carrier does not receive the VGM as required under this rule then the Carrier shall:

1. Weigh the cargo and use that weight in lieu of the VGM, in which case a charge of \$50 per container shall apply for the account of the cargo; or
2. At the request of the Shipper, hold the container until VGM is provided in which case any and all costs, fees, expenses, damages and/or penalties of any type, nature or source whatsoever shall be for the account of the cargo.

D. CARGO DEPARTING INTERNATIONAL LOCATIONS

When departing an international location, the fee will vary by location depending on locally imposed fees. Carrier will provide further details as more information from these locations become available.

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