UL Solutions defines minimum requirements for shipment of material samples (liquid, powders, gases and other hazardous materials) and products/components (e.g., batteries) used in UL certified end products as part of UL Solutions certification requirements.

This document applies to all customers of UL Solutions product certification services for the U.S. and Canadian Safety Mark certifications.

Why this requirement is important

Safety is a key element in the shipment of samples to UL Solutions. Therefore, samples must be shipped in proper containers for the safe transport of the material with clear identification of the material for handling by personnel, and any subsequent "en route" emergency and disposal needs.

Failure to comply with the minimum requirements for shipment of samples can result in delays, extra expenses, spills, injury and damage to property.

Requirements

Responsibility

It is a manufacturer's responsibility to assure that all material samples of liquid, powders, gases and other hazardous materials and products/components (e.g., batteries) are properly labeled and shipped with the appropriate Safety Data Sheets (SDS) in compliant containers as follows.

Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and containers for material samples of liquid, powders, gases and other hazardous materials and products/components (e.g., batteries) samples.

The following process shall be followed when the selection of liquid representative samples are required:

- Samples must always be provided in proper containers.
- Containers shall be new, never used before and clean so that there is no chance of contamination and shall contain a locking top to prevent leakage in shipment.
- Plastic bottles with narrow throats may only be used for liquid samples that remain in the liquid state at ambient temperatures.
- Metal containers with wide throats must be used for liquids that cure to a solid state at ambient temperatures (the wider throat is necessary to remove the sample in its solid form and the metal container permits the heating of the sample to a liquid state, if necessary).

- To comply with applicable governmental regulations the manufacturer shall:
  - Provide the appropriate Safety Data Sheets or other such documents and complete these documents in accordance with applicable governmental requirements. Whenever possible or as required, the applicable governmental required documents must be attached to the sample container, along with the sample tag.
  - Properly label the inner containers, per local requirements, of the ship to country such as the United States OSHA Hazard Communication standard. Note: Many countries, including the United States have adopted the Globally Harmonized labeling system.
  - All samples shall be shipped in accordance with International Air Transportation Association (IATA) and US Department of Transportation regulations.
SDS exemptions for liquid samples

If a manufacturer’s sample does not require shipment with a SDS, the manufacturer is required to provide the UL Solutions field engineering team with supporting documents showing that the liquid in question is exempt from requirements. The UL Solutions field engineering team will enter remarks on the sample tag “Manufacturer Verified that SDS or applicable governmental documents are Not Required.”

SDS exemptions for liquid samples

When UL Markings are required to be sent along with the sample and the markings are only on large (1 gallon or more) preprinted containers — the liquid sample must be packaged in a smaller, separate container with the prescribed volume of liquid and shipped with the large empty container with the UL Markings.

Check list – before you ship

1. Reference the current IATA, US DOT and all applicable local standards prior to shipping.

2. Samples within inner containers are labeled per local country regulations. For example, the United States uses OSHA Hazard Communication Standard 29CFR1910.1200 for incoming shipments.

3. A SDS MUST be included with all the shipping paperwork on the outside of the package.

4. Package must have proper IATA and US DOT labeling. Needed information may be found on the SDS, Section 14: DOT Shipping Name, UN/NA number DOT labels.

5. Package must be overpacked as needed. Outer box and packing material should be used to protect the inner box containing the sample(s).

6. Need help? Ask a local in-country expert (e.g., FedEx, UPS, certified exporter, etc.)

7. Still need help? Use a certified exporter to package, label and prepare proper documentation.

For more information, please contact your local UL Solutions field engineering team.