

12th May, 2016

IMO – SOLAS Amendment Chapter VI effective July 1 2016

Further to the last customer advice issued April 30th 2016, we are now able to provide you with an update following the publication of the Executive Decree by the Italian competent authority in Rome, outlining the guideline for determining the Verified Gross Mass (VGM) of packed and sealed containers.

- At the following link, you will find a copy of Executive Decree No.447/2016, issued 5th May, 2016:

<http://services.contshipitalia.com/svc/jspinclude/download.jsp?idx=-1&key=20160513091644398>

Key points of note, are:

- The regulatory (calibrated and certified) instruments that are permissible for weighing the packed and sealed containers, must adhere to the stipulations stated within the relevant Legislative Decrees shown.
- At this moment in time, the only weighing devices that meet these conditions are weighbridges.
- The Shipper (or by their arrangement, a third-party) remains responsible for obtaining and documenting the VGM of a packed container and providing it to the Shipping Line sufficiently in advance to allow preparation of the stowage plan.
- In order to obtain the necessary certification, compliance requirements are listed for Shippers that elect to use Method-2 to determine the VGM.
- There will be a tolerance level of 3% of the VGM (including the container tare) for any re-weighing, checks and inspections carried out, after initial weighing of the packed container is completed.
- For a period of one year, from 1st July 2016 to 30th June 2017, certified weighing devices may be used other than those already defined, with a +/- weight accuracy allowance of 500kg.

Contship Italia Group status remains as advised in our last update and progress is being made across a number of developments. Further updates will be issued when appropriate.