

THE COMPLIANCE ROADMAP

Global supply chain disruptions have put even more pressure on the organizations and professionals responsible for shipping Dangerous Goods (DG) safely and compliantly.

Regulatory compliance will continue to become more challenging as supply chains evolve and rules and regulations expand. To keep pace, it's critical for organizations to continuously assess their DG operations and identify opportunities to improve compliance, safety and efficiency.

The good news is that meaningful improvements don't have to be difficult or require a significant investment. Here's a roadmap of practical steps to creating a better DG supply chain.

Technology



Leveraging DG technology can help automate operations and establish repeatable and reliable processes across the supply chain.

Key Questions:

- » Do you use manual processes for compliance? And if so, how long does it take to research regulations and validate each shipment across transport modes and carrier variations?
- » To what extent are you aware of DG functionality within your own ERP, WMS, TMS and other systems?
- » Have you explored opportunities for further integration of DG into those systems?

How you answer these questions will determine what steps you need to improve your DG management infrastructure.

Possible Strategies and Tactics:

- » **Deploy DG-specific technology.** DG management software can help make operations more repeatable and reliable by producing documentation, while enabling automatic validation of shipments, packaging, labels and markings against the latest regulations.
- » **Integrate safety and compliance into existing systems.** Maximize DG functionality of ERP, WMS, TMS and other systems and further integrate DG into other areas of the organization.
- » **Improve data reliability, accuracy and completeness.** DG management software helps ensure data is stored — and therefore maintained — in a single location. All stakeholders work with accurate, up-to-date information, so there is no wasted time or effort re-entering data in multiple systems or learning how to use multiple interfaces.

[Discover Advanced DG Technology](#)

Training

Employee training is often the most critical resource for building and maintaining safe, compliant operations across all locations and supply chain partners. That's why it's important to keep your training current not only with the latest regulatory and carrier updates, but also with any company-specific changes, to effectively prepare employees.

Key Questions:

- » When was the last time you evaluated or updated your training?
- » Per new regulations, has your training been updated based on the role competencies for each employee?
- » How confident do your employees feel about doing their jobs based on current training?
- » Does your training reflect your company's current business operations or the market landscape?
- » How effectively can you train and recertify employees remotely?
- » What gaps exist within your current training program?
- » To what extent are your training records kept up to date? And if you are audited, are they centrally located for easy access?

How you answer these questions will determine what steps you need to improve your DG training.

Possible Strategies and Tactics:

- » **Leverage eLearning tech platforms.** Adopting a modern, tech-driven approach to DG training through eLearning can help you quickly and effectively train and recertify employees — and do so remotely. Changes in regulatory content can be updated immediately and training content is easily sharable across supply chain partners.
- » **Provide more immersive training.** Use gamification or 3D online training experiences that create an immersive environment that mirrors an employee's actual workplace. These can deliver more effective, fun and engaging experiences compared to books or PowerPoint slides — and when people have fun, they retain more of what they learn.
- » **Ensure your training content is relevant to your company.** Integrate your company's unique policies, employee roles, procedures, industry, products and suppliers into training and use functionality, tasks and examples unique to your situation.

[Explore Online DG Training](#)



CHECKLIST

-  PUT PROPER PACKAGING MATERIALS IN THE BOX
-  PLACE REQUIRED MARKS AND LABELS ON THE TABLE
-  APPLY REQUIRED MARKS AND LABELS TO THE PACKAGE
-  SELECT THE CORRECT SHIPPING DOCUMENT

Labeling, Marking and Packaging Products

Outdated DG packaging and labeling has been a problem for decades. Refining your labeling, marking and packaging strategies can further improve efficiency and safety for anyone handling or transporting DG — and give your operation a competitive advantage.

Key Questions:

- » How confident are you that all locations are using safe and compliant labeling and packaging?
- » Are all your locations realizing volume savings on products they need to mark and pack DG?
- » When was the last time you assessed your DG packaging for the latest packaging innovations that may reduce total size, weight and cost?
- » Has your packaging evolved along with the regulations or products you're shipping?
- » Does your packaging enable you to safely, efficiently and compliantly manage returns or recalls?
- » Can your labels and marks withstand the harshest conditions in the DG supply chain?

How you answer these questions will determine what steps you need to improve your hazmat packaging and marking strategy.

Possible Strategies and Tactics:

- » **Improve your sustainability footprint with new label and placarding materials.** Innovative substrates and material may increase your ability to reduce, reuse and/or recycle label and placarding, based on the specific need.
- » **Embrace next-generation packaging.** New, innovative packaging solutions are engineered specifically for transporting certain types of DG, such as lithium batteries, making the transport of these items safer, easier, more cost-effective and more compliant than ever.
- » **Consider alternatives to various types of packaging.** New secondary containment packaging is now available that offers a lighter, safer and more convenient alternative to traditional metal “paint can” packaging. It provides a more effective and convenient way to ship hazardous liquids, reduce freight costs and reduce the risk of leaks and other incidents.

Find the Packaging You Need

Regulations



DG regulations are complex, constantly evolving and can vary by country, carrier and transportation mode. It's essential to ensure your organization stays on top of the latest regulations and can quickly and effectively share that information with employees and supply chain partners.

Key Questions:

- » How quickly and easily can employees or supply chain partners access and share the latest DG shipping regulations?
- » How are these processes implemented and monitored following an acquisition, the opening of a new facility, etc.?

How you answer these questions will determine what steps you need to improve your approach to accessing regulations.

Possible Strategies and Tactics:

- » **Purchase digital licenses.** Keep your employees and supply chain partners up to date on the latest regulations using digital materials, which can be easily shared and accessed remotely.
- » **Align with regulatory bodies and third-party experts.** Work with industry experts to understand complex regulations and identify low-hanging fruit and cost-effective solutions.

[Get the Latest Regulatory Publications](#)

The Path Forward

Shipping and handling DG will only become more difficult as supply chains continue to become more complex, greater numbers of items become classified as dangerous and regulations continue to emerge and change. By understanding gaps and opportunities within various aspects of your DG operations, your organization can take meaningful steps to improve compliance throughout your supply chain.

More Resources:

- » [Labelmaster.com](https://www.labelmaster.com)
- » [Labelmaster Blog](#)
- » [DG Exchange Digital Community](#)
- » [Global DG Confidence Outlook Library](#)

