

UN Hazard Identification Numbers, Classes and Packing Groups

The UN Hazard Identification Numbers, Classes and packing groups all relate to the transportation of the waste material. For a more detailed explanation and description of the numbers and classes it is recommended that the Globally Harmonised System (GHS) of classification is consulted through the CLP (Classification, Labelling and Packaging of Substances and Mixtures) Regulations, which applies from 1st December 2010, these regulations can be accessed at www.hse.gov.uk/coshh/detail/coshh-clp-reach.htm however, as an aide memoir the numbers, classes and groups are given below:-

UN Identification Numbers

The Hazard Identification Number (HIN) is a two or three digit reference code which describes the nature of the material being transported in terms of its physical and chemical properties and the first digit represents the following hazards:-

- 2 Emission of gas due to pressure or to chemical reaction
- 3 Flammability of liquids
- 4 Flammability of solid or self-heating liquid
- 5 Oxidising (fire intensifying) effect
- 6 Toxic or risk of infection
- 7 Radioactivity
- 8 Corrosive
- 9 Risk of spontaneous violent reaction

The second digit can be in relation to a number of factors, for example if the second digit is a repeat of the first digit then this indicates that the hazard is intensified and when the second digit is a zero then the first digit adequately describes the hazard. A couple of examples are given below:-

- 90 Environmentally hazardous substance, miscellaneous dangerous substance
- 606 Toxic infectious substance

UN Identification Classes

UN Identification classes are very similar to the hazard codes but in this case relate to transport of the materials; the classes are listed below:-

Class 1 Explosive

- 1.1 Substances with a mass explosion hazard
- 1.2 Substances which present a projection hazard but no mass
- 1.3 Substances which present both a fire hazard and a minor blast or projection hazard (or both) but not a mass explosion hazard
- 1.4 No significant hazard
- 1.5 Very insensitive substances with a mass explosion hazard

1.6 Very insensitive articles with no mass explosion hazard

Class 2 Gases

- 2.1 Flammable gases
- 2.2 Non Flammable, non-toxic gases
- 2.3 Toxic gases

Class 3 Flammable liquids

Class 4 Flammable Solids

- 4.1 Flammable solids, self-reactive substances and solid desensitized explosives
- 4.2 Materials liable to spontaneous combustion
- 4.3 Substances which, in contact with water, release flammable gases

Class 5 Oxidising substances and organic peroxides

- 5.1 Oxidizing agents
- 5.2 Organic peroxides

Class 6 Toxic and Infectious substances

- 6.1 Toxic substances
- 6.2 Infectious substances

Class 7 Radioactive substances

Class 8 Corrosive substances

Class 9 Miscellaneous Dangerous substances

Packing Groups

Group 1 – Great Danger

Group 2 –Medium Danger

Group 3 - Minor Danger