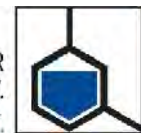


3 June, 2015

Industry Guidance – Determination of container weights

Österreichischer VCI



Determination of container weights

■ 2nd method: **Calculation**

- Weight of all packages and cargo items (pallets, dunnage and other securing materials) and tare weight of the container are added
- Certified method (approved by the competent authority of the State in which packing of the container was completed)
 - could pertain to either the procedure for the weighing or
 - to the party performing the weighing
 - or both
- Certification and approval of the method (calculation) is determined by the competent authority of the State in which packing and sealing of the container was completed
- **A standard approach for the 2nd method (calculation) does not yet exist**

Determination of container weights

Chemical industry:

- Quite often, there is no possibility for weighing so that
- the calculation method is indispensable

Determination of container weights

Goals of the chemical industry:

- Prevent different requirements in different countries
- Find a cross-sector solution („Industry Guidance“)
- A solution which is
 - certified as a calculation method, and
 - accepted by all countries

(= one certified calculation method – accepted by all)

Determination of container weights: Industry Guidance



Industry Guidance for the implementation of SOLAS Chapter VI, Regulation 2 and the associated IMO Guidelines regarding the verified gross mass of a container carrying cargo

Introduction

The proposed amendment to SOLAS, Chapter VI, Regulation 2 and the associated IMO Guidelines regarding the verified gross mass of a container carrying cargo, was adopted at the 94th MSC session in November 2014 for entry into force on 1 July 2016.

This amendment requires mandatory verification of the gross mass of a container prior to loading on vessels. Although some exemptions are included (for roll-on/roll-off vessels amongst others), the vast majority of containers loaded for export will fall under this new regulation.

The regulation provides for 2 methods to verify the gross weight of a container, namely:

1. weighing the packed container using calibrated and certified equipment; or
2. weighing all packages and cargo items, including pallets, dunnage and other securing material to be packed in the container and adding the tare weight of the container to the sum of the single weights, using a certified method approved by the competent authority of the State in which packing of the container was completed.

This guidance sets out uniform industry guidance for implementing method 2 of this regulation.

If method 1 (weighing of the entire container) is used, the location where this is done can be freely chosen by the shipper. This should also be possible at or near the port of loading. If this information is given in time to the carrier, this should be considered as the verified weight.

Determination of container weights: Industry Guidance

Essential elements of the Industry Guidance (I):

Steps for calculation of the gross weight of the loaded container

Step 1	Weight of product
Step 2	Weight of packaging
Step 3	Weight of pallets, securing materials and dunnage
Step 4	Tare weight of the empty container
Step 5	Addition of weights obtained in steps 1 through 4 to obtain the gross weight of the loaded container

Determination of container weights: Industry Guidance

Essential elements of the Industry Guidance (II):

- Precision / tolerances
- Passing on the information to the carrier
- Verification of the calculation method by the competent public authority

Determination of container weights: Industry Guidance

Summary of our goals:

- Legal certainty [national implementation]
- As soon as possible [time for IT adaptation]
- Certified procedure [as an alternative to individual solutions; simplification for all stakeholders]
- Cross-sector solution [uniform standard]
- International recognition [uniform standard]