

SOLAS Regulation Loaded Container Verified Gross Mass (VGM) Document?

IMO – SOLAS Regulation Loaded Container Verified Gross Mass (VGM)

International Maritime Organization (IMO) adopted amendments to the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention, Chapter VI Regulation 2 – Cargo information regarding mandatory Verification of the gross mass of a container carrying cargo together with associated guidelines published as MSC.1/Circ. 1475. Effective 1st July 2016, all loaded containers are required to have a Verified Gross Mass (VGM) declared by shippers. The requirement making container weight verification a condition for vessel loading will become legally binding on July 1, 2016. The enforcement of the SOLAS requirements regarding the verified gross mass of packed containers falls within the competence and is the responsibility of the SOLAS Contracting Governments. Contracting Governments acting as port States should verify compliance with these SOLAS requirements. Any incidence of non-compliance with the SOLAS requirements is enforceable according to national legislation.

What does it mean to provide a loaded Container Verified Gross Mass (VGM)?

The VGM is the certified Gross Cargo weight (including weight of all packing material & dunnage) plus container tare weight. There are two methods for the Shipper to calculate the VGM: Method 1: Weigh a packed & sealed container on a weighing bridge/device. Method 2: Computing the VGM by using a Verified Cargo Weight (including packing materials) and adding the container tare weight

Who is responsible to provide the VGM?

The SOLAS regulation stipulates that the Shipper is responsible to provide the VGM to relevant parties (Terminal and Carrier). There is no requirement for either the Carrier or the Terminal to have a VGM checked, verified, certified or re[1]weighed. The Carrier is also not responsible to verify whether correct method/certification has been used by the Shipper. Under the SOLAS requirements, the shipper named on the ocean bill of lading is the party responsible for providing the maritime (ocean) carrier ('master') and the terminal operator ('terminal representative') with the verified gross mass of a packed container.



SHIPPER DECLARED VERIFIED GROSS MASS (VGM)

SHIPPER INFORMATION

Booking or Bill of Lading No.:

Shipper Name:

Shipper Address:

Country:

Shipper Reference No.:

I hereby certify the weights listed below as true and accurate. I also confirm that I am duly authorized by the Shipper to sign this declaration.

First Name:

Last Name:

Phone No.:

Email:

The signature below may be: (1) a live signature; (2) an electronic signature; or (3) typed in all CAPITAL LETTERS

Signature:

Date:

VERIFIED GROSS MASS

Method of Weighing: A - total weight of sealed container after cargo is loaded.

B - sum weight of all packages, packing and securing material, and empty container.

Unit of Measure: Pounds (LB)

Kilograms (KG)

Container No.	Cargo Weight	Tare Weight	VGM Weight
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

The Shipper shown on the Bill of Lading is responsible for obtaining and documenting the Verified Gross Mass (VGM). If the Shipper fails to provide accurate or timely VGM information, then the Shipper shall be liable and responsible to Global Distribution and Logistics, LLC. for any associated fines, penalties, fees, delays, damages, losses, and any additional costs resulting therefrom including, but not limited to, demurrage, detention, storage, examination, weighing, handling, etc.