

17/02/2020

Transport of pyrotechnic products on passenger ships is not permitted

Pyrotechnic products must primarily be transported on cargo vessels when they are imported to Finland by sea. Professional transport of pyrotechnic products on passenger ships is not permitted. Transports containing pyrotechnic products must be clearly marked so that the hazardous nature of the transport is indicated outside the vehicle or transport container. The transport shall also be accompanied by an appropriate transport document which shall be delivered to the carrier before the transport and, in the case of sea transport, to the master of the vessel.

In accordance with the directive on supplying pyrotechnic products to the market, pyrotechnic products are classified to fireworks, categories F1–F4, other pyrotechnic products, categories P1 and P2 and pyrotechnic products used in theatres, categories T1 and T2. In Finland, pyrotechnic products of categories F4, P2, T1 and T2 are intended for use by professionals only.

Pyrotechnic products intended for professional use may be possessed by a fireworks organiser approved by Tukes, a fireworks importer or a holder of a pyrotechnician's certificate. Pyrotechnic products may be transported by a person entitled to possess such products. If necessary, pyrotechnic products may be transported by a person qualified for the transport of dangerous goods.

Transport and packaging requirements for pyrotechnic products

In the context of transport, pyrotechnic products may be classified on the basis of their properties under UN numbers UN 0333, UN 0334, UN 0335, UN 0336 and UN 0337 FIREWORKS, pyrotechnic articles and equipment designed for entertainment purposes. The classification code of UN 0333 referred to in the regulation on the transport of dangerous goods by road and in IMDG Code, chapter 3.2, table A, column (3b) may only be used with the approval of the Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency (Tukes) or the competent authority of another ADR/RID country. The approval shall be issued as a written certificate of approval and shall contain a unique identifier. If the classification to a specific hazard class has been carried out in accordance with the procedure in paragraph 2.2.1.1.7.2, Tukes may require the confirmation of the default classification with Manual of Tests and Criteria, Part I, Section 16, test series 6.

In the Baltic Sea region, the transport of dangerous goods is governed under the IMDG Code and the Baltic Sea Memorandum of Understanding (Baltic Sea MoU). The Baltic Sea MoU provides for the possibility of complying with provisions derogating from the IMDG Code when transporting dangerous goods referred to in international road and rail transport regulations (ADR and RID) on ro-ro vessels in the Baltic Sea. As a rule, the transport of pyrotechnic products on passenger ships is prohibited which means that they must be carried on cargo vessels.

Package and markings in accordance with regulations

The consignor or, in the case of waterway transport, the shipper and consignor are responsible for ensuring that the dangerous substance presented for transport – that is, the pyrotechnic product – has been classified, packed, marked and presented for transport in accordance with the provisions and regulations. The shipper and consignor are also responsible for ensuring that the package and cargo transport unit presented for transport are marked and labelled in accordance with the provisions and regulations. In addition, they are responsible for ensuring that the required information is correctly marked on the transport documents and that the required transport documents are delivered to the carrier before the transport. The *Multimodal Dangerous Goods Form* shall be completed for the transport of packed dangerous goods. The form also includes the container or vehicle packing certificate.

Ensuring the suitability of the transport type

The carrier shall ensure that the vehicle and vessel used for the transport of pyrotechnic products can be used for this purpose and that the vehicle is properly manned in road transport. Before transport, the carrier shall ensure that it does not transport dangerous goods the carriage of which is prohibited. In road transport, the driver must have, in addition to a driving licence, a driving permit that entitles the transport of dangerous goods.

A pyrotechnic product transported as luggage must be appropriately packed, and its transport shall otherwise comply with the relevant provisions and regulations. A pyrotechnic product transported as luggage must be packed for retail sale and intended for personal or household use.

If the pyrotechnic product has not been classified, packed and labelled as referred to in the provisions or regulations, or if the required transport documents have not been provided, or if the package or container intended for the transport of dangerous goods has been damaged, the transport of the pyrotechnic product is prohibited. If any deficiency that may endanger the safety of the transport is observed during the transport, the transport must be interrupted as soon as possible. The transport may not continue until the deficiency has been rectified appropriately.

Notifying the port and shipping company about the transport well in advance

For the purpose of maritime transport, the shipper or consignor shall, where possible, provide the port authority or operator with information on the substance well in advance before delivering the pyrotechnic product to

the port area, at least 24 hours before the product enters the port. The shipper and the consignor are responsible for providing the master or owner of the vessel with the information specified in the IMDG Code, the consignor's insurance and the container or vehicle packing certificate before loading the dangerous goods onto the vessel. In addition, before unloading the dangerous substance in Finland, the master of the vessel shall provide the port authority and the operator unloading the vessel or their representative with the necessary information.

A vessel carrying dangerous goods must have, among other things, a cargo manifest or a detailed stowage plan that states the name or UN number and class of each dangerous substance transported on the vessel and, if necessary, its packaging group. In addition, the manifest or plan must state the location of the goods on the vessel as well as present the provisions and regulations on the transport of break-bulk shipments of dangerous goods on vessels and the emergency and first aid instructions. The vessel's cargo manifest or stowage plan presented to the supervisory authority and port authority shall clearly state that the cargo contains dangerous goods.

The provisions laid down on the packing and combined loading of pyrotechnic products shall also be complied with.

The packages shall be loaded on EX/II or EX/III vehicles that comply with the relevant regulations. The choice of vehicle depends on the amount of dangerous goods to be transported. The amount is subject to limitations per transport unit in accordance with the loading regulations. Containers containing liquid, powdery substances or pyrotechnic products shall not have a metallic bottom surface or bottom surface covering. When transporting pyrotechnic products, the following must be stated on the consignment note: "*Fireworks classification approved by the competent authority XX with the identifier XX/YYZZZZ*". The shipment does not have to be accompanied by the certificate of approval for the classification, but the consignor must make it accessible to the carrier and the competent authority for supervision purposes. The certificate of approval for the classification or a copy thereof must be in Finnish or Swedish.

Transport of pyrotechnic products from within the EEA

Import of pyrotechnic products into Finland from within the EEA does not require an import licence, but the transport must comply with the provisions on the transport of dangerous goods. Pyrotechnic products of categories 1.1G, 1.2G and 1.3G may be transported by road on a passenger car if their amount does not exceed the exemption level of 20 kg of net mass of explosive substance. For products of category 1.4G, the corresponding limit is 333 kg. When products of different transport categories are transported together, the transport's exemption level is calculated in accordance with the table in [Section 1.1.3.6.3 of the regulation on the transport of dangerous goods by road](#).

The driver of the transport containing pyrotechnic products must ensure that the products can be stored safely at the destination. For example, a consumer may store a maximum of 5 kg (net mass of explosive substance) of pyrotechnic products at their home for a short period of time, or in a space other than a residential apartment a maximum of 25 kg (net mass of explosive substance). When the product mass exceeds these limits or the owner of the products is an operator in the field of pyrotechnic products, the storage of the products must be authorised by Tukes.

See also:

[Act on the Transport of Dangerous Goods](#)

[The IMDG Code](#)

[Resolution MSC.406\(96\)](#)

[Act on the Safe Handling and Storage of Dangerous Chemicals and Explosives](#)

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