



香港特別行政區政府海事處

MARINE DEPARTMENT

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

## **Verification of Gross Mass of a Container Carrying Cargo by Method 2**

Prior to performing verification of gross mass of a container carrying cargo by Method 2, please ensure the submission of the relevant verification method to Marine Department. Such a method can only be adopted after receiving the letter of registration confirmation issued by this department.

### **1. Acquiring the Masses of the Cargoes to be Loaded into the Container**

The types of cargoes carried by containers are extensive. Generally they can be divided into two main categories as shown below.

#### **1.1 Homogenous Cargoes**

Basically the shapes and masses of individual homogenous items are identical. For instance, the mass of every packed television set is 20 kg. If the shipper intends to load 100 numbers of television sets to a container, the gross mass of cargoes should be 20 kg x 100 numbers, which gives 2,000 kg.

The shipper can rely on the mass information provided by the manufacturer or determine by weighing to obtain the masses of individual items.

#### **1.2 Irregular Cargoes**

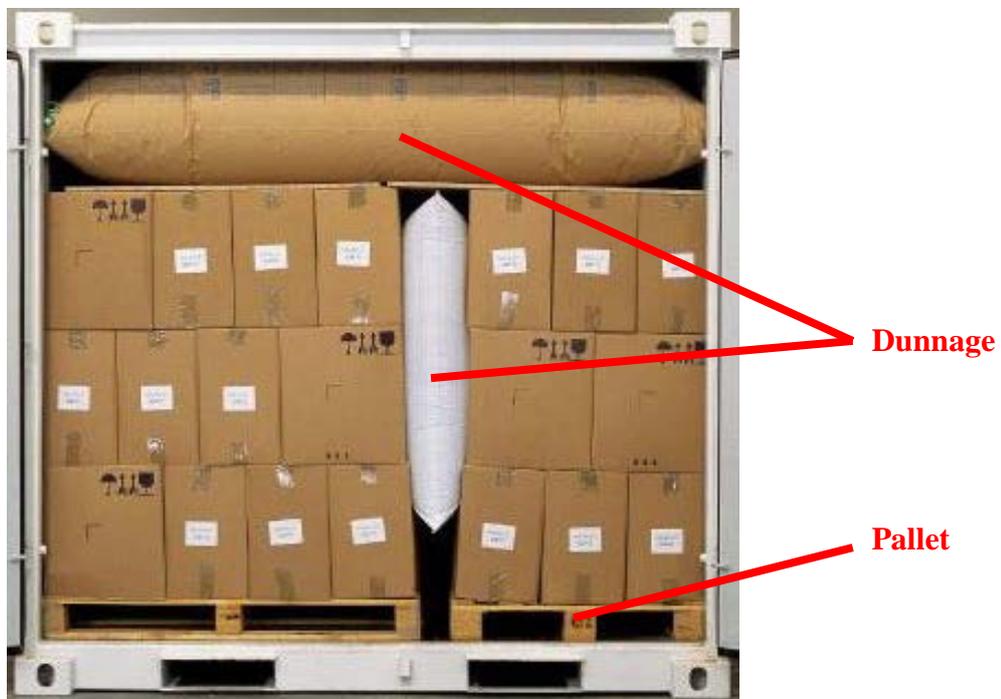
The common irregular cargoes include bulk commodities and liquids. Weighing the irregular cargoes by adopting Method 2 is almost the same as the practice for homogenous cargoes. However the masses of individual items would not be identical due to the irregular shape of those cargoes. The shipper shall therefore have to weigh every item or make use of the filling machine with mass measuring device. It is more appropriate to use Method 1 for such kind of cargoes (i.e. weighing the packed container by authorized weighing scale).

## 2. Acquiring the Masses of Packaging

All the masses of packaging can be determined by weighing or can be relied on the information provided by the manufacturer for the required calculation.

## 3. Acquiring the Masses of Securing Materials

All the masses of the securing materials such as pallets and dunnage, etc. (as shown in the figure) can be determined by weighing or can be relied on the information provided by the manufacturer for the required calculation.



#### 4. Acquiring the Tare Container Mass

In general, the tare mass of the container has been indicated in the field of “TARE WEIGHT” on the door end of the container (as shown in the figure). Should there be any reasons the tare mass cannot be determined in a timely manner, the corresponding carrier can be consulted.



#### 5. Adding up all the Masses

The masses obtained in step 1, step 2, step 3 and step 4 should be added to work out the gross mass of the packed container.

#### 6. Shipper's Declaration

For the verified gross mass of a packed container obtained by the above-mentioned method, a declaration shall be made in the shipping documents. Such a declaration should cover the below content:

“Shipper's declaration: the gross mass of packed container declared in the shipping document was obtained in accordance with Method 2 stipulated in SOLAS Chapter VI Regulation 2. The procedure of this method has been approved or recognized by Marine Department with registration number GMV012345678” and followed by the signature of the shipper.

**Example (1)**

Assuming a shipper plans to employ a container for transportation of 5,000 bags of rice. The mass of each bag of rice is 5 kg according to the information provided by the rice manufacturer. The mass of all the securing materials is 650 kg as determined by weighing. The tare mass shown on the container indicates 3,000 kg.

From the above information, the gross mass of the packed container should be  
 $5,000 \text{ bags of rice} \times 5 \text{ kg} + 650 \text{ kg} + 3,000 \text{ kg}$   
 $= 28,650 \text{ kg}$

**Example (2)**

Assuming a shipper plans to employ a container for transportation of 3 types of wire ropes with different thicknesses. After weighing, the mass of A type is 4,200 kg per coil, the quantity is 1 coil; the mass of B type is 6,000 kg per coil, the quantity is 2 coils; and the mass of C type is 3,500 kg per coil, 2 coils.

The mass of packaging is 80 kg as determined by weighing. The mass of securing materials is 500 kg. The tare mass shown on the container indicates 3,000 kg.

From the above information, the gross mass of the packed container should be  
 $1 \text{ coil} \times 4,200 \text{ kg} + 2 \text{ coils} \times 6,000 \text{ kg} + 2 \text{ coils} \times 3,500 \text{ kg} + 80 \text{ kg} + 500 \text{ kg} + 3,000$   
 $\text{kg}$   
 $= 26,780 \text{ kg}$