

Aviation Group Client Update

Date: May 25, 2012

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PHMSA SEEKS COMMENT ON INTERNATIONAL HARMONIZATION FINAL RULE

Today, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) solicited comment regarding certain amendments adopted in a **January 19, 2011** international harmonization final rule. The final rule amended the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) by revising, removing, or adding proper shipping names, hazard classes, packing group assignments, special provisions, packaging authorizations, packaging sections, air transport quantity limitations, and vessel stowage requirements.

According to PHMSA, the amendments were necessary to align the HMR with recent revisions to international standards for the transport of hazardous materials. Further to the international harmonization final rule, PHMSA proposes to amend the HMR as a result of administrative appeals concerning the transportation of ORM-D material, use of Square-On-Point and ID number limited quantity markings, fuel cell cartridges, and others. Other proposed changes include revised shipper responsibilities related to packaging design variation, manufacturer notification, and recordkeeping requirements for certain packaging types.

PHMSA also addressed recent actions taken by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Dangerous Goods Panel (DGP) regarding certain lithium ion battery-powered mobility aids offered by passengers for air transport.

Comments are due on or before **July 24, 2012**. Please contact our office for additional information or for assistance with the preparation or submission of comments.

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