



June 06, 2016

Hyde Shipping Guidelines for the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) for Port Everglades, FL.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has amended the Safety of Life at Sea Convention (SOLAS) to require, as a condition for loading a packed container onto a ship for export, that the container has a Verified Gross Mass (VGM). This requirement will become globally effective on July 1st, 2016.

The Verified Gross Mass (VGM) consists of the following: cargo including packaging, all dunnage and packing materials used for blocking and bracing of the cargo plus the tare weight of the container.

The SOLAS amendments:

1. Require that Shippers have the responsibility for obtaining and providing the Verified Gross Mass (VGM) of containers before they can be loaded aboard a vessel.
2. Provide that there are two permissible methods for weighting:
 - a. Method 1: Requires weighting the container after it has been packed using certified and calibrated equipment.
 - b. Method 2: Requires weighting all the cargo including packaging, pallets, dunnage and packing materials used for blocking and bracing of the cargo; and adding it to the container's tare weight as indicated on the door of the container.

Estimating weight is not permitted. The Shipper (or by arrangement of the Shipper, a third party) has a responsibility to weight the packed container or to weight its contents.

Hyde Shipping will provide a Container Weighting Service at Port Everglades to assist shippers to comply with the new Verified Gross Mass regulation.

This new service will provide a quick and accurate VGM weight and will avoid potential delays in shipping your container. A fee of \$20.00 USD, will be charged for this service.

To take advantage of our new VGM Weight Service, please complete the “[Verified Gross Mass \(VGM\) Letter of Authorization](#)” and return it to your Miami customer service representative at your earliest convenience but no later than June 30th, 2016.

Port of Belize:	csanchez@hydeshipping.com	Carlos Sanchez... at (305) 913-4948
Cayman:	rlugo@shdeshipping.com	Rafael Lugo..... at (305) 913-4917
Pt. Morelos:	jrodriguez@hydeshipping.com	Joe Rodriguez.... at (305) 913-4950
Roatan:	jlambes@hudeshipping.com	Juan Llambes..... at (305) 913-4923