

Dear Customer,

Please be informed that as of the 1st of July 2016 the Solas (Safety of Life at Sea) rules regarding container weighing will become effective. These rules are submitted by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO). The Solas rules mean that every full container to be loaded on a seagoing vessel needs to have a Verified Gross Mass (VGM). This VGM should be supplied by the shipper to the shipping company prior to loading the container on a vessel.

The International Maritime Organisation gives two possibilities to determine the VGM: The gross mass of containers shall be verified by either weighing the packed container using calibrated and certified equipment; or by weighing all packages and cargo items and adding the tare mass (mass of an empty container) to the sum of the single masses.

What does it mean for you?

We need a VGM prior to loading the container:

- You send us a booking and mention the estimated cargo weight on your booking.
- Prior to loading the cargo into a truck or container you determine the exact cargo weight by weighing all packages and cargo items and adding the tare mass (mass of an empty container) to the sum of the single masses or
- After loading you weigh the packed and sealed container on a calibrated weigh bridge

After determining the weight by either weighing or calculating you state the VGM on the CMR and packing list.

For loads loaded in curtainsiders and later transferred into a container is also a VGM required from the original shipper. Please mention the VGM on the CMR and packing lists that accompanies the curtainsider load.

No VGM means a container cannot be loaded on the vessel.

To prevent we have to refuse a container without a VGM we can offer you an additional weighing service. To make this possible we are currently investing in calibrated weighting devices and IT connections. Every containers without a VGM will be weighted by SCS Multiport. This additional service will be performed against cost. The costs for this service are 50 euro per container.

If you have questions about your specific situation please contact our customer service department (email: [customerservice@scsmultiport.nl](mailto:customerservice@scsmultiport.nl) or phone: +31 20-2620850).

For further reading about VGM you can also visit our website: [www.scsmultiport.nl](http://www.scsmultiport.nl)

Kind regards,

SCS Multiport bv

