

## **SOLAS Container Verified Gross Mass requirement**

01<sup>st</sup> April 2016

Dear Valued Customers,

From the 01<sup>st</sup> July 2016, in accordance with the International Maritime Organization ( IMO ) and the Safety of Life at Sea Convention ( SOLAS ), it will be required that all packed containers must have a Verified Gross Mass ( VGM ) for them to be received for shipment.

- The VGM is to be provided by the Shipper.
- The Shipper is the legal entity or person named on the Bill of Lading.
- In order to provide the VGM the container must be weighed after it has been packed or all its contents weighted and those weights and the container's tare weight ( as shown on the door of the container ) added.
- The VGM should be specified on the shipping documents and signed by the shipper.
- Estimation of a containers VGM is not permitted. The accuracy of the VGM obtained for a container is solely the responsibility of the shipper and could be monitored by the relevant regulatory authority.
- Containers without a VGM will not be loaded & depending on the port, may not be received at the wharf for loading.

The full text of the SOLAS regulations and the IMO Guidelines Regarding the Verified Gross Mass of Container Carrying Cargo can be found at:  
<http://www.worldshipping.org/industry-issues/safety/cargo-weight>

The IMO/ILO/UNECE Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (CTU Code) and the CTU Code Informative Materials can be found at:  
<http://www.worldshipping.org/industry-issues/safety/containers>

Should you have any questions please contact Pacific Direct Line or your local Transam Office.

Thank you for your continued support.  
Yours sincerely

### **Pacific Direct Line Limited**

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