

Description of International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Codes

The International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code was developed as a uniform international code for the transport of dangerous goods by sea covering such matters as packing, container traffic and stowage, with particular reference to the segregation of incompatible substances.

For the purposes of this Code, dangerous goods are categorised into different classes, further subdivided to define and describe characteristics and properties of the substances, material and articles which would fall within each class.

Class	Symbol	Sub-classes
1 - Explosives		1.1: Substances with a mass explosion hazard e.g. TNT, dynamite. 1.2: Substances which have a projection hazard but not a mass explosion hazard. 1.3: Substances which are a fire hazard and either a minor blast hazard or minor projection hazard (or both) but not a mass explosion hazard. 1.4: Substances with no significant hazard. 1.5: Very insensitive substances with a mass explosion hazard. 1.6: Extremely insensitive substances which do not have a mass explosion hazard
2 - Gases		2.1: Flammables gases 2.2: Non-flammable, non-toxic gases 2.3: Toxic gases
3 - Flammable liquids		
4 - Flammable solids		4.1: Flammable solids, self-reactive substances and desensitised explosives 4.2: Substances liable to spontaneous combustion 4.3: Substances which may emit flammable gases in contact with water.
5 - Oxidising substances and organic peroxides		5.1: Oxidising substances 5.2: Organic peroxides
6 - Toxic & infectious substances		6.1: Toxic substances 6.2: Infectious substances
7 - Radioactive material		
8 - Corrosive substances		
9 - Misc. dangerous substances		