

SECTION 21 GENERAL (LOOSE) FREIGHT

- 21.1 Safe Handling
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21.1 SAFE HANDLING

The principles of good stowage, as described in Section 6 of this Manual, apply to all aspects of handling general and loose freight. However, in addition to Section 6, the following points are applicable.

DO...

- ✓ Take **note** of all **Labels and Symbols** on any package, drum or crate.
- ✓ **Separate** and **document dangerous goods** freight.
- ✓ Use **plenty of dunnage** and divider boards.
- ✓ Stacked **sacked** goods in layers, each layer in a **different direction**.
- ✓ Stack **cylinders** and **drums on end** where the length is less than twice the diameter.

For side access wagons and containers...

- ✓ Place large items to the outside; small items and oddments to the middle.

For end access wagons and containers...

- ✓ Place box-shaped freight to the back and to the bottom.
- ✓ Place a large item at the front, if possible, for protection.

THINK ABOUT UNLOADING SEQUENCE

- ➔ How should I pack these goods so they can be unloaded easily?



21.2 CARTONS & BOXES

DO...

- ✓ Place heavy, box-shaped freight at the bottom.
- ✓ Place light, crushable items at the top.
- ✓ Interlock boxes, where possible for support and security.
- ✓ Palletise and shrink wrap when possible, e.g., when lots of small boxes are going to the same destination.

DO NOT...

- ✗ DO NOT use tarpaulins and nets as the **only** method of securing the load.

21.3 CYLINDRICAL LOADS

This includes carpet rolls etc.

DO...

- ✓ Stack on the long axis (not upright) unless instructed otherwise.
- ✓ Stack lengthwise along the wagon, not across the wagon.
- ✓ Where carpet has a centre core, handle with a **carpet probe**.
- ✓ Chock and/or lash all rolls to prevent 'rolling' around whilst in transit.

21.4 DRUMS & GAS CYLINDERS

- ➔ Drums and cylinders are likely to contain **dangerous goods**.
Check: Ensure that dangerous goods documentation is completed if needed.
 See Section 7 of this Manual for details.

DO...

- ✓ **Check** that all cylinders have a **valve cap** or **suitable guard**.
 - ➔ **Cylinders without a suitable valve cap or guard will not be accepted for either transport or storage.**
- ✓ Stow narrow cylinders horizontally across the deck unless they can be lashed together upright and fully secured.
- ✓ Stow squat cylinders with a base ring, and LPG cylinders, vertically. If there is any possibility of movement in transit, they should be lashed to a bulkhead or secured in cages.

WHEN HANDLING 209 LITRE (44 GALLON) DRUMS

DO...

- ✓ Use drum clamps.
- ✓ Stow upright.
- ✓ Stow on pallets or on timber or rubber dunnage.
- ✓ Lash together.

21.5 GLASS, GLASSWARE & PRODUCTS STORED IN GLASS**DO...**

- ✓ Handle with care at all times.
- ✓ Stow carefully, protected from other freight.
- ✓ Stow liquids as if they were in glass, even if they are not.

21.6 MISCELLANEOUS**DO...**

- ✓ Where possible, put miscellaneous freight onto a pallet or into a cage.

See Sections 5 and 6 of this Manual for general guidelines.

See Section 18 for guidance when stowing doors and other wooden products.

See Section 13 for guidance when stowing small quantities of loose metallic product.