

SAFETY IS A PRIORITY

In order to avoid safety problems at sea and ashore arising from container shipments that have incorrect weight declarations, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) adopted new regulations regarding the mandatory container gross weight verification also called the "Verified Gross Mass" (VGM) of the container.

This new regulation will entail that, as from July 1st 2016, the shipper is required to verify and communicate the gross weight of the packed container, before the container can be loaded on board a ship.

How to weigh?

The verification of the gross mass can be achieved by using 1 of these methods:

Method 1. weighing the packed container; or

Method 2. weighing all packages and cargo items, including the mass of pallets, dunnage and other securing material to be packed in the container and adding the tare mass of the container to the sum of the single masses.



When to submit the VGM?

SOLAS requires that the VGM information is submitted sufficiently in advance of vessel loading to be file used in the preparation of the ship stowage plan. For NileDutch this deadline will generally fall 24 hours before vessel arrival at loadport, but may vary depending on the arrival time of the vessel and other factors.



Who provides the VGM?

The shipper will be responsible for providing the verified gross mass of every container. The shipper is the legal entity named on the ocean bill of lading, sea way bill or equivalent multimodal transport document as shipper.



How to share the VGM?

NileDutch is aiming for an easy submission of the VGM for our customers. The shipper can submit the VGM to NileDutch through the shipping instructions (SI) or a separate document via mail, INTTRA or manually submit the document.



What if the VGM is not received in time?

A packed container, for which the verified gross mass has not been obtained will not be loaded on the vessel.



**For assistance and questions, please contact your local NileDutch office.
Please regularly check our website for further information and details about "Verified Gross Mass".**