



Transport conditions for samples classified in infectious substances, category B

According to *European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road* (ADR), we offer you this little guide which will help you perform a transporting which complies with regulations and help a faster processing of your samples.

Hereinafter are the packing conditions complying with UN packing instruction 650 (P650), in use for the transport of infectious substances in category B assigned to UN 3373. This mean of shipment is to be used only when a prior identification of the sample has allowed to exclude all reasonable risks of belonging to category A. You can refer to the table hereinafter : indicative examples of infectious substances included in category A

Triple packaging shall be used. Nevertheless the whole set does not need an agreement ; moreover, secondary packaging may be supplé on condition to be secure and watertight in normal handling, transporting and boarding situations with the same requirements of tightening and retention (absorbent matter) as in those settled in Instruction P620, namely primary receptacle(s) shall be protected against shocks using shockproof material and against any possible leakage of its(their) content. Finally, the secondary packaging shall be protected against shocks inside the outer packaging.

If you opt for a ready made packaging, the manufacturer must provide legible packing, handling and unpacking instructions printed on the packaging itself.

Labelling and marking of outer packaging :



An UN 3373 label displayed in a background contrasting colour, shall be visible and legible. The label must be in the form of a square set at an angle of 45° (rhombus) with each side having a length of at least 50mm; the width of the line shall be at least 2mm and the letters and numbers shall be at least 6mm high. The proper shipping name "BIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCE, CATEGORY B" in letters at least 6mm high must be marked on the outer packaging adjacent to the diamond-shaped mark. You can download this label by clicking on [this link](#).

Mandatory documents :

- For ADR (route transports) there's no obligation

A few remarks concerning transporting conditions :

1. Regulatory quantities per package : For ADR there's no limitation.
2. If several primary packagings are contained in a single secondary packaging, same conditions as in Instruction P620 applies.
3. If several parcels are overpacked then marks and labels herein described must stay visible and legible or they shall be repeated on the overpack.

Nota bene : If you wish to use air transportation for your samples please contact air companies or IATA for further information because shipping regulations may differ.

Summary table of samples packaging steps



The primary packaging (here a Petri box) shall be weatherproofed using a sealing tape such as Parafilm®.



The primary packaging shall be wrapped with absorbent material then held in a shockproof material such as bubblewrap.

If several primary packagings shall be sent, you must separate one from each other with cushioning material to prevent damages.



Dully protected primary packaging(s) shall be held into a secondary packaging which may be rigid.

If, as shown beneath, this packaging cap is screwed, then you shall tighten it and ensure no accidental opening occurs by using a tape or a fastener.



For Infectious substances, category B, you may use a supple secondary packaging, on condition to be watertight and secure enough.



Secondary packaging shall be held into a rigid, closed, shockproof and water resistant outer packaging which shall display :

- UN3373 mark
- « Biological substance, Category B » quote
- originator and recipient addresses

REMARK

For infectious substances, category B shipments, you may build up your parcel by yourself. There is no obligation to use certified packages.

Hereinafter you will find a summary table displaying organisms that shall be packed using Instruction P620 unless otherwise indicated. **These organisms must not be carried using packing instructions hereinbefore presented.**

INDICATIVE EXAMPLES OF INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCES INCLUDED IN CATEGORY A IN ANY FORM UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED	
UN 2814 Infectious substances affecting humans only	<i>Bacillus anthracis</i> (cultures only)
	<i>Brucella abortus</i> (cultures only)
	<i>Brucella melitensis</i> (cultures only)
	<i>Brucella suis</i> (cultures only)
	<i>Burkholderia mallei</i> – <i>Pseudomonas mallei</i> – glanders (cultures only)
	<i>Burkholderia pseudomallei</i> – <i>Pseudomonas pseudomallei</i> (cultures only)
	<i>Chlamydia psittaci</i> – avian strains (cultures only)
	<i>Clostridium botulinum</i> (cultures only)
	<i>Coccidioides immitis</i> (cultures only)
	<i>Coxiella burnetii</i> (cultures only)
	<i>Escherichia coli</i> , verotoxigenic (cultures only) ¹
	<i>Francisella tularensis</i> (cultures only)
	<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> (cultures only) ¹
	<i>Rickettsia prowazekii</i> (cultures only)
	<i>Rickettsia rickettsii</i> (cultures only)
<i>Shigella dysenteriae</i> type 1 (cultures only) ¹	
<i>Yersinia pestis</i> (cultures only)	
UN 2900 Infectious substances affecting animals only	<i>Mycoplasma mycoides</i> – contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (cultures only)

¹ For surface transport (ADR) nevertheless, when the cultures are intended for diagnostic or clinical purposes, they may be classified as infectious substances of Category B