

01-10 Hazardous Material Revision to Incident Reporting Requirements and Incident Forms



**Pacific Maritime Association**

Accident Prevention Department  
550 California Street, P. O. Box 7861  
San Francisco, California 94120-7861  
<http://www.pmanet.org>

# SAFETY BULLETIN 10-01

## Hazardous Material Revision to Incident Reporting Requirements and Incident Forms Notice of Proposed Rule making

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### INFORMATION

RSPA is proposing revisions to the current incident reporting requirements of the Hazardous Materials Regulations and the hazardous materials incident report form, DOT Form F 5800.1. The major changes proposed by RSPA in this NPRM include: collecting more specific information on the incident reporting form; expanding reporting exceptions; expanding reporting requirements to persons other than carriers; reporting undeclared shipments of hazardous materials; notifying shippers of incidents; and reporting non-release incidents involving bulk packages. The revisions are intended to increase the usefulness of data collected for risk analysis and management by government and industry and, where possible, provide relief from regulatory requirements.

Although the current incident report form provides useful information and is generally recognized as being fundamentally sound, RSPA believes that room for improvement exists. Both the HazMat Flagship initiative and the HMPE emphasized the need to obtain more accurate and complete data on incidents. RSPA believes the opportunity exists to obtain better, more detailed information on events with potentially greater consequences; to provide more descriptive information to help determine root causes of events; to offer better linkages so that data can be coupled (for example, registration numbers and fire and police report numbers); and to better structure the report form to facilitate complete and accurate responses.

Proposed rules were published in the Federal Register Vol. 66, No. 128 July 3, 2001 pp.35155-35177 (49 CFR Part 171)

### ACTION

Employers should take note of the proposed rule changes and comment as appreciate. Comments are due on or before October 1, 2001. Address comments to the Dockets Management System, U.S. Department of Transportation, Room PL 401, 400 Seventh St., SW, Washington, DC 20590-0001 identify the docket number, RSPA-99-5013 (HM-229).

You may also submit your comments and review all comments by accessing the Docket Management System website at <http://dms.dot.gov>. Click on "Help and Information" to obtain instructions for filing a document electronically.

*Marc Mac Donald, Vice President, Accident Prevention  
e-mail: [mmacdonald@pmanet.org](mailto:mmacdonald@pmanet.org)*