



Just the Facts...

DOT Regulates 10-24.9% Formaldehyde Solutions

1. BACKGROUND. Title 49 CFR provides two entries for formaldehyde solutions in the Hazardous Materials Table Part 172.101: Formaldehyde solutions, flammable, UN1198; and Formaldehyde solutions, *with not less than 25% Formaldehyde* UN2209. Both materials are regulated by highway, water and air. These entries imply that Formaldehyde solutions, which are not flammable or have less than 25% Formaldehyde are not regulated, but 10-24.9% require regulation as a Hazard Class 9 material when shipped by air. Formaldehyde solutions in these concentrations are noxious and can cause extreme annoyance or discomfort to crew members in the event of a spill or leak on an aircraft.

2. BASIC SHIPPING DESCRIPTION. The basic shipping description for 10-24.9% formaldehyde solutions shipped by air is "Aviation regulated liquid, n.o.s. (formaldehyde), 9, UN3334." This basic description is required for all multi-modal shipments that have the potential to be transported by air also.

3. FORMALIN SOLUTIONS. When shipping Formalin solutions, refer to the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) to determine the percentage of formaldehyde. Full strength Formalin is 37% Formaldehyde and will be shipped as Formaldehyde solutions, flammable, UN1198. 25% Formalin solutions have approximately 9% Formaldehyde and are classified as "Aviation regulated liquid, n.o.s. (formaldehyde), 9, UN3334" for transportation by air. (Shipments of 10-24.9% formaldehyde solutions shipped by highway only do not require classification as a hazardous material.) Ensure that the flashpoint and percentage for formaldehyde are taken into consideration when you shipping Formalin.

4. POINT OF CONTACT. The point of contact for this fact sheet is Ms. Diane Roberts. You may reach her or DSN 584-3651 or (410) 436-3651.

