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ISO UPDATES GUIDANCE FOR APPLICATION OF QUALITY SYSTEMS RELATED TO THE PRODUCTION OF PACKAGINGS USED FOR DANGEROUS GOODS [HAZARDOUS MATERIALS] TRANSPORTATION

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has issued updated guidance to manufacturers (and reconditioners) of packagings used for the transportation of dangerous goods (i.e. hazardous materials). The document, “ISO 16106:2020 - Transport packages for dangerous goods – Dangerous goods packagings, intermediate bulk containers (IBCs) and large packagings – Guidelines for the application of ISO 9001,” offers important assistance to companies that have adopted or which otherwise employ quality systems based upon the ISO 9000 series.

A copy of the new standard may be ordered from the ISO standards store [here](#).

The standard applies to companies that have adopted ISO 9000 quality systems or which base their unique quality management programs on ISO guidance. Companies that adopt ISO quality programs do so to help improve their overall production performance and satisfy customer requirements.

The updated standard offers “...guidance on the application of a quality management system in the manufacture, measuring and monitoring of design type approved dangerous goods [hazardous materials] packaging...” including IBCs and large packaging.

The standard has updated some definitions for key terms and added several new provisions related to leadership and commitment, planning and organizational roles.

In the United States, hazardous materials packaging reconditioners and manufacturers are not required to conform to nationally or internationally recognized quality standards. However, since the guidance in the updated standard is generic, it can be used, in whole or in part, by any packaging producer, regardless of its type or size, or the products and services it provides. Importantly, companies that are ISO 9000 certified should obtain a copy of the standard and update their ISO programs accordingly.