

REQUIREMENTS FOR PACKAGING AND DESPATCH OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS TO THE PIRBRIGHT INSTITUTE

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs licence allows the importation of biological material to The Pirbright Institute (TPI) by AIRFREIGHT, to London Heathrow Airport. If it is not possible to deliver samples by airfreight then a courier designated by TPI may be used.

Diagnostic Services

Non-vesicular diseases

- African horse sickness***
- African swine fever
- Bluetongue***
- Capripox viruses (goat pox, sheep pox and lumpy skin disease)
- Epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus***
- Peste des petitis ruminants

Vesicular diseases

- Foot-and-mouth disease
- Swine vesicular disease
- Vesicular stomatitis
- Vesicular exanthema of swine

All of the infectious diseases listed above require specific packaging and shipping according to ICAO and TPI biosecurity regulations.

**** These disease may be shipped as non-infectious for import/export purposes.*

Advice should be sought by the relevant TPI department concerning the sample type that should be sent and the optimal despatch conditions. Sample collection advice and sample submission forms for investigation of suspected cases of vesicular and non-vesicular disease viruses are available on our website at:

http://pirbright.ac.uk/ref_Labs/Default.aspx.

Notification of shipment

Before despatch, the shipment details must be agreed with TPI who must be given:

1. Flight number/Air Waybill number
2. Tracking number from courier
3. Date and time of expected arrival at London Heathrow
4. Two point of contact for queries
5. Submission Form

Contact should be made directly with the reference laboratory administrator via: incomingsamples@pirbright.ac.uk or if necessary phone at +44 (0) 1483 231078 or +44(0) 1483 231446 prior to shipment.

Packaging requirements

Specimens for diagnosis of the pathogens listed above must be packaged according to ICAO following IATA protocol.

If samples are derived from culture they must be sent as a category A UN2900. However, TPI's professional opinion is that all of the above listed diseases (except Bluetongue virus) should be sent as category A, whether culture samples or not, due to the infectious nature of these agents and the UK being free of these diseases. An IATA certified personnel must package these and sign off a shipping declaration. If you are sending a category A shipment please contact your TPI department if you are unsure how to despatch.

IATA packaging Instruction 650 must be followed for UN3373 category B. IATA packaging instruction 620 must be followed for UN2900 category A. How to package is explained briefly below and the correct labelling can be seen by the figures 1 and 2.

For category B shipments, samples should be placed in a leak-proof primary container (not glass) which should be individually wrapped in absorbent material and then placed in a crush and leak-proof secondary container. This may be surrounded by sealed freezer packs or dry ice and enclosed in a strong outer packaging. If dry ice is used the outer packaging should allow the release of carbon dioxide. Under no circumstances must dry ice be placed in sealed containers due to the risk of explosion. A list of contents should be enclosed in a waterproof envelope between the secondary and outer packaging.

For category A shipments, the above instructions for category B should be followed, however in addition samples must be placed in an IATA approved secondary container which has been classified to the appropriate UN specification (example a BioPack with UN 4G/CLASS 6.2/11GB/2815 – please note 11GB and 2815 will vary depending on the year, country of production and unique manufacturer number). The overpack, in which the dry ice may be placed, must also be classified under IATA specified UN specifications. A maximum of 50mL of infectious substances can be contained in one BioPack when samples are shipped using a non-cargo aircraft.

Due to the nature of our laboratory the parcel must only contain material that is to be processed at TPI.

Labelling

The outer packaging of the parcel must be clearly labelled with the following information:

1. Our import licence number - a copy of which should also be attached within an envelope to the outside of the package
 - Outside the EU - AHZ/1309/A
 - Inside the EU – PATH/180E/2014/80

2. Name and address of the department at TPI. *Please note that failure to correctly address the package to the correct consignee may result in delay or even destruction of the package.*
3. Name and telephone number of the person responsible for sending the parcel
4. Flight Number
5. Air Waybill Number
6. Dry Ice Label (if necessary)
7. Category B UN3373 labelling or UN2900 labelling (infectious substance) as appropriate
8. If the parcel is sent **door to airport** the following instruction must be added:

Airfreight package for the attention of:

Moonbridge Air and Project Services Limited

“Batch ID DHI”

Unit 304, Bedfont Industrial Park

Challenge Rd

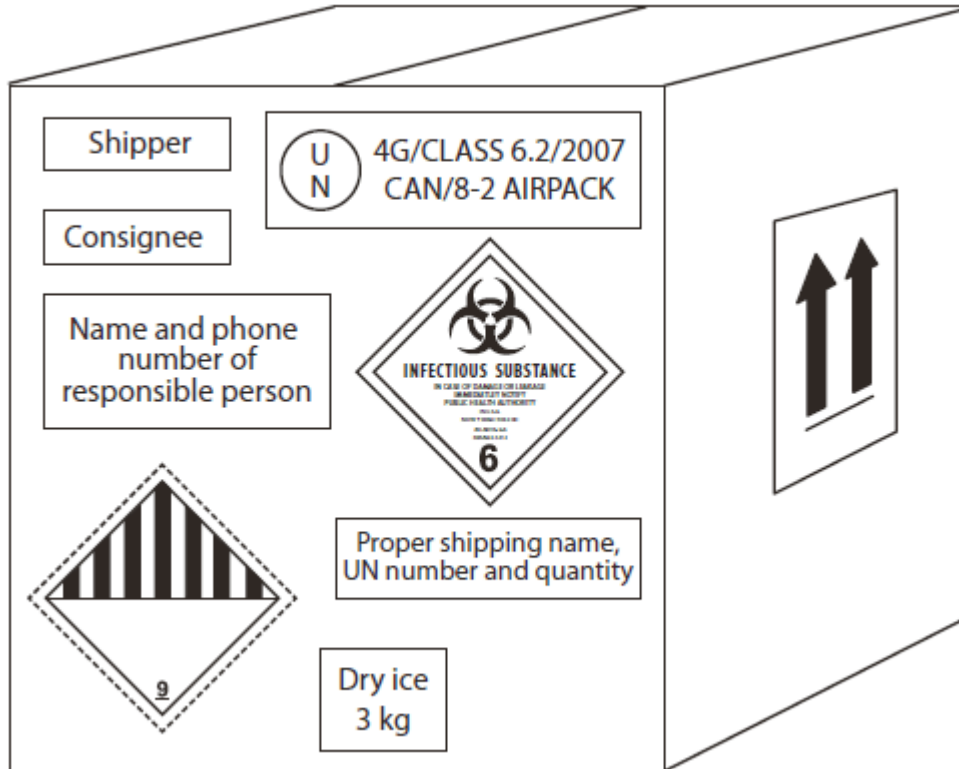
Ashford, Middlesex

TW15 1AX

If you need to contact Moonbridge please call them at +44 (0) 178 25955
or RyanS@moonbridge.co.uk, SamM@moonbridge.co.uk,
Duncan@moonbridge.co.uk

Labelling for Infectious Substances

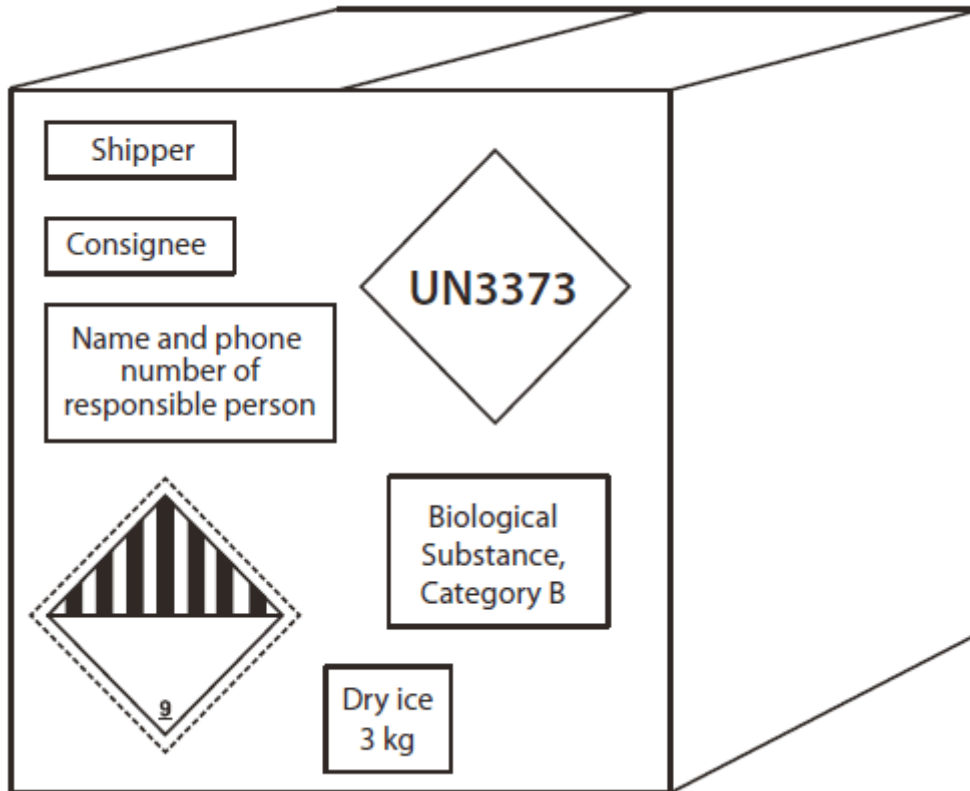
Category A with Dry Ice



“Guidelines for Safe Work Practices in Human and Animal Medical Diagnostic Laboratories”, 2012,
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/su6101a1.htm>

Labelling for Infectious Substances

Category B with Dry Ice



"Guidelines for Safe Work Practices in Human and Animal Medical Diagnostic Laboratories", 2012,
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/su6101a1.htm>