



# Q&A

**Q1: What is the request of the new SOLAS ?**

A: SOLAS requires that shipper showing in the bill of loading is responsible for ensuring that the verified gross mass is communicated in the shipping documents sufficiently in advance to be used by the ship's master or his representative and the terminal representative in the preparation of the ship stowage plan. In the absence of the shipper providing the verified gross mass of the packed container, the container should not be loaded on to the ship.

**Q2: When is the execution time of the new SOLAS ?**

A: On Nov 21, 2014 the IMO's Maritime Safety Committee announced that the new Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) will become effective from July 1, 2016.

**Q3: Who is responsible to submit the VGM in the new SOLAS regulation?**

A: The shipper showing in the bill of loading or the entity authorized by the shipper is responsible to provide the VGM.

**Q4: How to obtain the VGM ?**

A: 1. Weighing the packed container using calibrated and certified equipment  
2 Weighing all packages and cargo items, including the mass of pallets, dunnage and other securing material to be packed in the container and adding the tare mass of the container to the sum of the single masses, using a certified method approved by the competent authority of the State in which packing of the container was completed

**Q5: Will there be a template to submit VGM?**

A: Unfortunately not. VGM has to be submitted according to above method (Q4) with the signature of shipper or the person duly authorized by shipper.

**Q6: What is the penalty for not complying with the new regulation?**

A: Please strictly comply with the new regulation, otherwise all the extra cost, risk and consequence will be taken by shipper. .

**Q7: When will Our Company issue a global customer advisory on VGM?**

A: The first Version is issued on Mar 23, 2016.

**Q8: When is the cut-off time for submitting VGM to our company?**

A: That will depend on the requirement of each terminal; our company will issue the

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cut-off time through website and marked on booking confirmation, etc.

**Q9: Will our company provide the relevant template and transmission channel for submitting VGM?**

A: Still in discussion. More detail please pay attention to our website.

**Q10: Will our company offer a weighing service?**

A: Unfortunately not. Currently our company does not have such weighing service.

**Q11: Would the terminal accept container gate-in without VGM ?**

A: Since not all of terminal provides weighing service, please follow the local terminal requirement.

**Q12: Is VGM mandatory when bill of loading already has GROSS WEIGHT?**

A: Yes. The GROSS WEIGHT is for trade business, but VGM is the requirement of SOLAS.

**Q13: Does shipper have to submit VGM with documentation?**

A: Shipper can provide VGM with document or submit separately.

**Q14: Will the VGM amendment be acceptable by our company?**

A: Acceptable. The original date can be updated but all the risks and consequence should be taken by shipper.

**Q: How to find the container tare weight?**

A: All the tare weight can be found on the container.