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European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law

IMPEL-TFS Return shipments in Europe

Carl Huijbregts
Project manager IMPEL-TFS
Enforcement Actions II project

Map 1: Main European cargo ports in 2008⁽¹⁾ by gross weight of goods handled Top 20 cargo ports and other main cargo ports in 2001 (*) on the basis of gross weight of goods handled ● >29 Mio ● 10 - 20 Mio 6 5 - 10 Mid 1-5Mo Foo 20 corps are named and their handling activity shown as bars.
(*) 2005 data for liceland Convies Cyprus © EuroGeographics Association for the estraintential poursience Cartingraphs, Europai - 045CD - Decorater 2508 (1) 2005 data for Iceland.

This presentation



- Legal background
- Return shipments procedures in Europe
- Tips & Tricks for return shipments

Legal Background take back obligations

- Basel Convention
- European Waste shipment Regulation

This presentation contains a summary of European legislation and informal agreements between Member states. This content does not necessarily represent the view of the national administrations or the Commission. No rights can be claimed based on this presentation.

European Waste Shipment Regulation EC No. 1013/2006



- Take back in case a shipment can not be completed (art 22, 23)
- Take back in case of an illegal shipment (art 24, 25)

In case a shipment can not be completed as intended in a notification and movement form



•When a receiving facility rejects a shipment, it shall of Environmental Law immediately inform the authorities.

- authority of dispatch shall take care that the notifier takes the waste back within 90 days
- Authorities can agree about an alternative

•Exemptions:

- -for waste that is mixed up with other waste
- -when the receiver has sent the declaration of recovery/disposal

Costs in case a shipment can not be completed as intended in a notification and movement form



- The notifier
 (financial guarantee of the notification)
- Another natural or legal person
- Authority of dispatch
- Otherwise agreed by the involved authorities

In case of an illegal shipment -definition



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Illegal shipment:

- Without notification
- Without consent
- Notification based on falsification, fraud etc
- Process leads to recovery/disposal in contravention with int. rules
- Contrary with an export ban
- Shipment as green listed waste
 - Seems not to be green listed
 - Abuse of exemption of laboratory samples
 - Movement document Annex VII is not correct

In case of an illegal shipment (Art 24)



- A government that discovers an illegal shipment shall immediately inform the other authorities involved
- If the notifier is responsible, the competent authority of dispatch shall ensure that the waste is:
 - -Taken back by the notifier de facto or de jure
 - -Taken back by the authority of dispatch itself
 - Alternatively recovered/disposed in the country of destination or dispatch
 - -Alternatively in another country by the country of dispatch
- Take back within 30 days, or otherwise agreed
- With notification, unless otherwise agreed

In case of an illegal shipment -exemptions



In case the consignee is responsible the authority of of Environmental Law destination is responsible

- Authorities work together in case neither the notifier and consignee can be defined as responsible
- When the receiver has sent the declaration of recovery/disposal

In case of an illegal shipment -costs



- When the notifier is responsible
 - •The notifier de facto (financial guarantee of the notification)
 - The notifier de jure, or another natural or legal person
 - Authority of dispatch
- When the consignee is responsible
 - the consignee
 - the competent authority of destination

IMPEL-TFS Practical guidance for " managing illegal shipments of waste"



1. General

- 2. Enforcement actions relating to illegal shipments to waste sites
- 3. Further investigations
- 4. Actions phase application of take back procedures

Actions phase – application of take back procedures



Directly after discovering an illegal shipment, the final European Union Network for investigation form (Annex B2) needs to be send to the otherwirenmental Law authorities.

> start 30 days term

The competent authorities shall examine in detail if and to what extend the notifier and/or consignee have contributed to the illegal shipment

Options:

- -responsible company is willing to take back the waste "voluntarily" →letter Annex C
- -responsible company refuses to take back the waste →letter Annex D
- Notification procedure starts or alternative procedure
 - → Annex E + Annex G2

Tips & tricks

- Always inform the country of origin and inform the the Implementation and Enform involved companies that the shipment will be followed to prevent the waste getting lost.
- check the return by tracking & tracing websites of shipping lines
- Inform the shipping line and point them on their responsibility to prevent claims
- take the hazardous goods transport legislation into account

Tips & tricks

- If you don't have a contact in an European country, European Union Network contact the Basel focal point as well as the IMPEL-TFS of Environmenta national contact point
- In case the country of origin did not ratify Basel Convention and is not obliged to take the waste back, try to get agreement and assistance for a court procedure in the country of origin
- Balance between formal procedures and pragmatic solutions

More information



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Carl Huijbregts
Project manager IMPEL-TFS Enforcement Actions II
Ministry of Infrastructure and environment
Carl.huijbregts@minvrom.nl
(+31) 40265 2911

Secretariat of IMPEL-TFS
Nancy Isarin
(+351) 289 701 354
info@impeltfs.eu

www.impeltfs.eu