



VERIFIED CONTAINER GROSS MASS

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION IN UGANDA

by

Jonah Mumbya

(MSO) - MoWT

April 19, 2018

Hotel Africana



Outline

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Preamble

- *Verified gross mass* means the total mass of a PACKED container as obtained by one of the prescribed methods;
- Owing to the problems associated with mis-declared cargo weights within the supply chain like:
 - ✓ Damage to the port terminal facilities,
 - ✓ Railway and road damage,
 - ✓ Uneven weight distribution across the ship, which may cause instability and damage to the ship and cargo.



Preamble...cont'd





Preamble...cont'd





Preamble...cont'd



2007



Preamble...cont'd

- IMO amended The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea [SOLAS] (Chapter VI, part A, regulation 2) to require that each packed export container's gross mass is verified prior to stowage aboard ship;
- June 2014, IMO (Maritime Safety Committee, 93rd session) 4) approved the Guidelines regarding the VGM of a container carrying cargo;
- This mandatory requirement came into force on July 01, 2016.



Scope

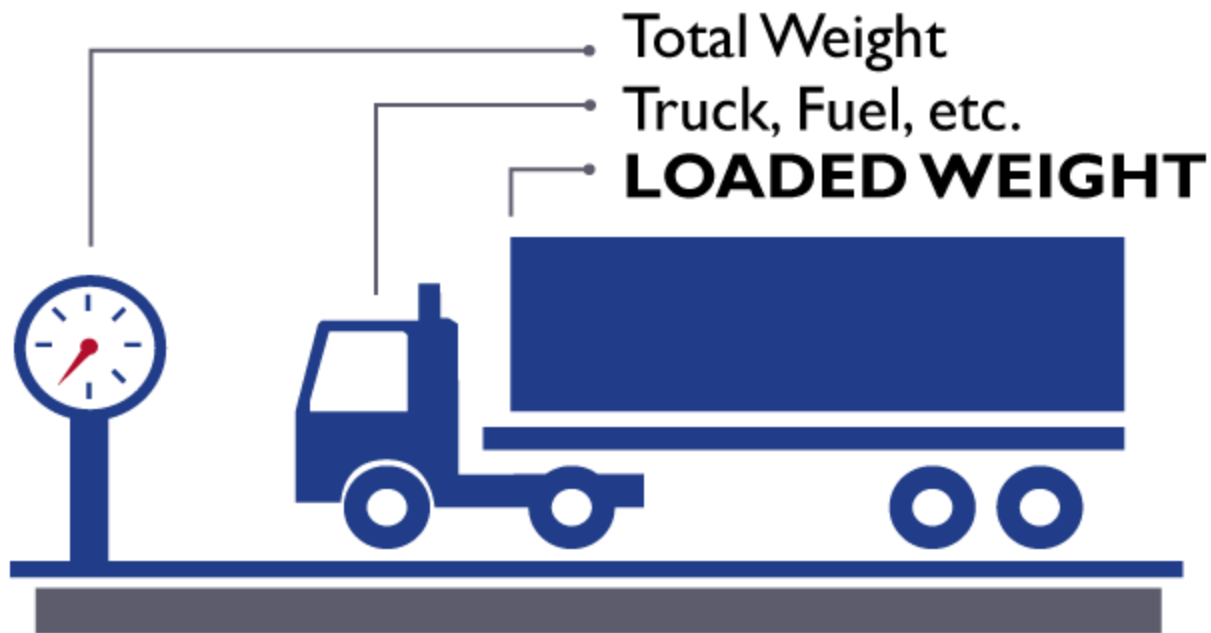
- These requirements apply to all containers meant to be transported by a SOLAS vessel.

Except:

- a) A packed container on a chassis or trailer to be driven on a ro-ro ship which is engaged on short international voyages;
 - b) Cargo items tendered by a shipper to the master for packing into a container already on board the ship;
- However, where there are any provisions in the contract of sale that are in conflict with the SOLAS requirements, SOLAS takes precedence.



Method I



METHOD I

Requires weighing the container after it has been packed



Method II



METHOD 2

Requires weighing all the cargo and contents of the container and adding those weights to the container's tare weight as indicated on the door end of the container.



Implementation status

- MoWT (competent authority) formed a Steering Committee to advise how to implement VGM in Uganda;
- Comprised private sector key stake holders, USC, UNBS;
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- The SC was also to identify/propose third parties that could aid in VGM implementation;
- Suggesting how shippers/third parties would relate with MoWT was also SC's responsibility;
- SC conducted an M&E three months after 01/07/2016 and advised MoWT on findings and way forward.



Core principles

- A packed container not to be loaded onto a SOLAS ship unless the master or his representative and the terminal representative have been provided with, in advance of vessel loading, the VGM of the container;
- Responsibility to obtain, document and transmit VGM of a container lies with the shipper;
- Shippers or third parties verifying gross mass are required to be approved by MoWT (competent authority);
- Either Method 1 or Method 2 could be used as determined by MoWT/UNBS;
- Weighing to be done using properly calibrated and certified equipment.



Service providers

MoWT Published a list of third party firms approved to weigh and issue the weight verification certificates inter alia;

| No | Firm | Address | Approved VGM Method |
|----|------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 1. | Ken-freight Logistics/UGACOF | Plot 1906, Jinja road Bweyogerere – Kireku road P O Box 7492, Kampala Tel: +256 414 286955 / +256 752286957 Email: admin@kenfreight.co.ug | Method I Method II |
| 2. | Multiple ICD Ltd | P.O Box 28884 Kampala Plot M612, Ntinda Industrial area, Kampala, Uganda Phone:+256 752 914099 / +256 752 914101 / +256 752 914110 Email: info@multipleicd.com | Method I |
| 3. | Karmic foods ltd | P.O Box 27929, Kampala, UGANDA Tel: +256 393 261046 / 261047 Mob: +256 756 320104 Mob: +256 781 236297 Email: exports.Karmic@ug.alphaafrica.com | Method II |



Service providers...Cont'd

| No | Firm | Address | Recommended VGM Method |
|----|---------------------------|---|------------------------|
| 4. | Olam (Uganda) Limited | P O Box 23436 Plot 2162, Old Jinja Road Kampala Industrial and Business Park - Namanve Kampala, Uganda Tel +256 414 271440 / 256 392 251013 Email: uganda@olamnet.com | Method I Method II |
| 5. | Liberty ICD Ltd | P.O. Box 72544, Kampala Kampala Industrial Business Park (KIBP), Namanve Tel: +256 755 744 331 / +256 776 744 331 / +256 712 744 331 Email: libertyicd3@gmail.com | Method I |
| 6. | Lake Bounty | M45 Ntinda Industrial Area Tel. +256756631903 Email.lakebounty@gmail.com | Method II |
| 7. | Export Trading Co. LTD | Plot 26/27 Namanve Industrial Area Tel. +256792600992 / +256759250583 Logistics.uganda@etgworld.com | Method I |



Going forward

a) Legal framework

MoWT to put in place supporting legal provisions (regulation, statutory notices)

b) Approving of shippers/third parties

More shippers/third party firms to carry out container VGM to be approved.

c) VGM Certification

MoWT to harmonise VGM certificates issued by all third parties

d) Institutional framework

Newly created Maritime Department, to ensure inspections, operational monitoring and licensing of third parties for compliance.

e) Weighing equipment

UNBS to continue calibrating and certifying all equipment employed for VGM



Going forward ...cont'd

f) Sensitisations

Awareness campaigns amongst stakeholders and public to continue

g) M&E

MoWT to effectively monitor the performance of third parties and sort out any issues that could affect the smooth implementation of VGM.



Thank you for listening!