

**Packaging Instructions for
Transport of Category B Infectious Substances
by Ground Transport (i.e. Dunham Express)
per Federal Register DOT 173.199**

Biological Substance, Category B / UN 3373

A Category B infectious substance must be packaged in triple packaging consisting of a primary receptacle, a secondary packaging, and a rigid body outer packaging.

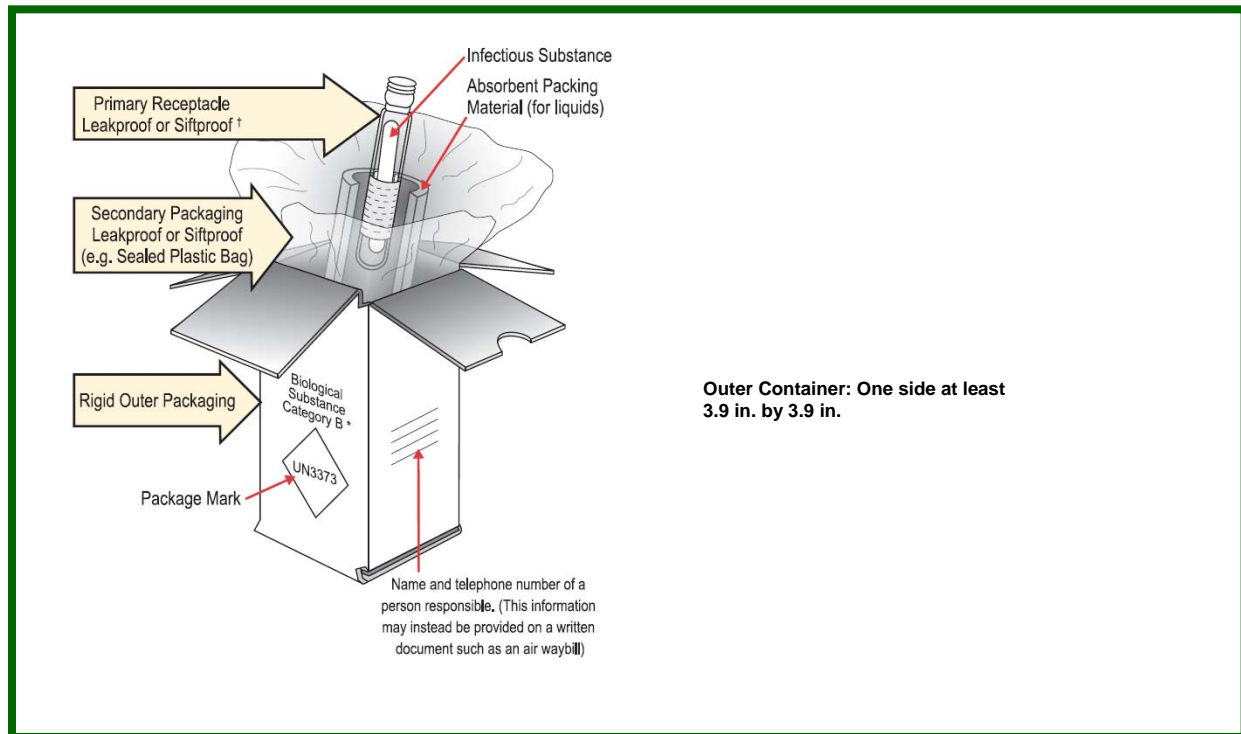
- 1. Primary Receptacle:** must be leakproof for liquids or siftproof for solids, may be glass, metal or plastic (i.e. vial, tube, slant, swab, etc.)
 - **Seal the primary receptacle with tape or parafilm for reinforcement.**
 - **Wrap the primary receptacle in absorbent material. The absorbent material must be of sufficient quantity to absorb the entire contents of the primary receptacle.**
 - **If transporting multiple primary receptacles, make sure they are individually wrapped in cushioning material to prevent breakage during shipping.**
- 2. Secondary Packaging:** must be leakproof for liquids or siftproof for solids (i.e. sealed biohazard bag, styrofoam[®] or screw-capped metal or container)
 - **Place the primary receptacle in a biohazard bag or some other secondary packaging of your choice.**
 - **Seal the biohazard bag, or other secondary packaging of your choice**
 - **Make sure the outside of the biohazard bag, or other secondary packaging of your choice is labeled with an *international biohazard symbol*.**
- 3. Outer Packaging:** must be rigid and capable of successfully passing the drop test (i.e. Styrofoam[®] or Fiber Board Box)
Minimum size: One side of the outer packaging must be at least 3.9 inches by 3.9 inches (100 mm X 100 mm)
 - **Place the secondary packaging in a Styrofoam[®] container or other rigid outer packaging of your choice. Secure the secondary packaging using cushioning material or supports to maintain it in its original position in the package.**
 - **If the specimen must be kept cool, place a cool pack or dry ice between the secondary packaging and the outer packaging.**
 - **Include a requisition form or itemized list of contents between the secondary packaging and the outer packaging. Seal the form in a plastic bag to keep it dry, if the package also contains a cool pack or dry ice.**
 - **Close outer packaging. If using dry ice, do not seal the outer packaging completely, as the outer packaging must allow the release of CO₂.**

4. **Labeling:** should be placed on a single surface whenever possible and labels may not overlap

- Place a UN 3373 label on the package so that the diamond is on point.
- The proper shipping name “Biological substances, Category B must be marked on the package adjacent to the UN 3373 diamond.
- Label with the consignees’s name and address.
- Label with the shipper’s name and address.
- Label with a responsible person’s/agency’s name and telephone number on the package. This person/agency must be knowledgeable about the material being shipped and must be available during normal business hours.

Biological Substance, Category B / UN 3373 by Ground Transport - Packaging Requirements -

Specimen must be Triple-Packaged.



Adapted from:

http://hazmat.dot.gov/training/Transporting_Infectious_Substances_Safely.pdf