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 consignee’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.

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

Specimen must be Triple-Packaged.

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