

 Application Note	<h2>Shipping Bottled Gas</h2>	Date	1-1-2000
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Shipping products and kits which include calibration gas

The shipping paperwork which accompanies any Biosystems product or kit which includes calibration gas must properly identify the contents as including a hazardous compressed gas. When products are "drop-shipped" directly from Biosystems to the end-user, this paperwork is completed at the factory. When products which contain compressed gas are shipped by distributors out of their on-hand inventory, it's up to the distributor to ensure that the paperwork is correct.

We've put together a list of frequently asked questions concerning shipment of calibration gas:

1. When filling out the paperwork, what do you use for the "Basic Description" of the product being shipped?

The "**Basic Description**" identifies the hazardous material which is to be shipped.

The "**Basic Description**" includes the *Proper Shipping Name, Hazard Class, ID Number and Packing Group*. A DOT or OSHA auditor will always ask what the "**Basic Description**" is for the hazardous material.

The calibration gas which is resold by Biosystems has the following Basic Description:

Proper Shipping Name: Compressed Gas N.O.S. (N.O.S. stands for "Not Otherwise Specified") Only the top 2 components in the mixture need to be listed. As an example: Compressed Gas N.O.S, (Oxygen, Nitrogen)

Hazard Class or Division: 2.2

ID. Number: UN1956

Packing Group: None

Label Required: Non-flammable gas

This information can be found in 172.101 Hazardous Materials Table in 49 CFR.

2. Is the calibration gas cylinder an "Approved Shipping Package"?

The cylinder which contains the compressed gas is an approved DOT shipping package. Performance package testing is not required. UPS and Federal Express requirements (not DOT requirements) state that the cylinder must be shipped in an approved over pack. For Biosystems, this means a 200 lb. burst strength box, which is externally labeled as to the nature of the compressed gas contents. (Biosystems shipping boxes are externally labeled as per DOT requirements.)

3. Why don't you list the percentage of the gas on the label?

Because it's not required!

4. Why are we shipping flammable or toxic gas?

We don't! The concentrations of the components in our calibration gas mixtures are too low to be toxic or flammable. The only hazard is that the gas is under pressure.

5. Why is "Cargo Aircraft Only" crossed off on the shipping paperwork and "Passenger or Cargo Aircraft" selected?

FedEx and UPS will not take "Cargo Aircraft Only" materials. This would mean the materials are extremely dangerous and need to be shipped under another special classification.

Biosystems ships all packages according to 49 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) and meets all state and federal shipping requirements.