

Preparation of Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer Products

Since the global demand for hand sanitizers has skyrocketed in recent months due to the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), current supplies are being depleted. Therefore, many companies that have not previously produced hand sanitizers as a primary product offering have made changes to their operations to produce them. Since many of these organizations have never manufactured hand sanitizer before, it is important for them to be aware that in most countries the production of alcohol-based hand sanitizer is regulated and subject to local transportation requirements.

Specific to the United States, hand sanitizers fall under the guidance of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations for manufacturing, labeling, and transport of these products must be declared as dangerous goods (DG). Both the FDA and the U.S. Department of Transportation published their respective responses to the increased demand of hand sanitizer products.

FDA Response

The FDA plays a critical role in protecting the United States from emerging infectious diseases, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and given the increase in demand of hand sanitizer and that many non-licensed or registered drug manufacturers are shifting production of hand sanitizers, the FDA has issued recent guidance.

An excerpt from the FDA's guidance on the topic; "The Agency is issuing this guidance to communicate its policy for the temporary preparation of certain alcohol-based hand sanitizer products ..."

The link to download the guidance can be found [here](#).

DOT Response

In support of the critical need to move hazardous materials during the COVID-19 public health emergency, the DOT's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) issued a [temporary relief notice](#) for companies shipping hand sanitizers. The relief details are listed within the downloadable content by clicking on the link, found [here](#).

An excerpt from the DOT; "The temporary relief is to help facilitate the increased availability of sanitation products during this public health emergency."

If you need help with the transportation of hand sanitizer or any other commodity, please reach out to your local BDP International contact or feel free to submit a request [here](#).