

SUBJECT 4

Re: Drugs or Medicines, NOI — Item 58770

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Proponent: Freight Classification Development Council

Present Classification Provisions

Item	Description	Class
DRUGS, MEDICINES, TOILET PREPARATIONS OR PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS		
GROUP: subject to item 58500		
58692	NOTE—Will also apply on packages containing surgical instruments or veterinarian supplies not in excess of 5 percent of gross weight of package. Where weight of such articles exceeds 5 percent of gross weight of package, Item 640 will apply.	
58770	Drugs or Medicines , NOI, not required by the U.S. Department of Transportation to bear a Hazard Class or Hazard Division label or placard, see Notes, items 58692, 58771 and 58772:	
Sub 1	In carboys.....	100
Sub 2	In bags, boxes, drums, pails or Packages 2407 or 2499, see Note, item 58773	85
58771	NOTE—Does not apply on materials regulated by the U.S. Department of Transportation as hazardous and required to bear a Hazard Class or Hazard Division label or placard. For classes applicable to such hazardous materials, see provisions elsewhere in this Classification.	
58772	NOTE—Will not apply on cocaine, codeine, heroin, morphine or opium, which will not be accepted.	
58773	NOTE—The following departure from packing requirements is permitted: Petroleum jelly, prepared and represented as a remedy, medicine or lubricant for the human body, may be shipped in Package 1000.	

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Proposed Classification Provisions

Item	Description	Class
DRUGS, MEDICINES, TOILET PREPARATIONS OR PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS		
GROUP: subject to item 58500		
58692	NOTE—No Change.	
⇒58770	Drugs or Medicines , NOI, not required by the U.S. Department of Transportation to bear a Hazard Class or Hazard Division label or placard, see Notes, items 58771, 58772 and NEW, in boxes, drums, pails, intermediate bulk containers (IBCs) or Package 2407, subject to Item 170 and having a density in pounds per cubic foot of:	
Sub 1	Less than 1	400
Sub 2	1 but less than 2	300
Sub 3	2 but less than 4	250
Sub 4	4 but less than 6	175
Sub 5	6 but less than 8	125
Sub 6	8 but less than 10	100
Sub 7	10 but less than 12	92.5
Sub 8	12 but less than 15	85
Sub 9	15 but less than 22.5	70
Sub 10	22.5 but less than 30	65
Sub 11	30 or greater	60
58771	NOTE—Does not apply on materials regulated by the U.S. Department of Transportation as hazardous and required to bear a Hazard Class or Hazard Division label or placard. For classes applicable to such hazardous materials, see provisions elsewhere in this Classification.	
58772	NOTE—⇒Does not apply on cocaine, codeine, heroin, morphine or opium, which will not be accepted.	
58773	NOTE—⇒Cancel; no further application.	
⇒NEW	NOTE—Does not apply on dietary supplements or vitamins.	

Analysis

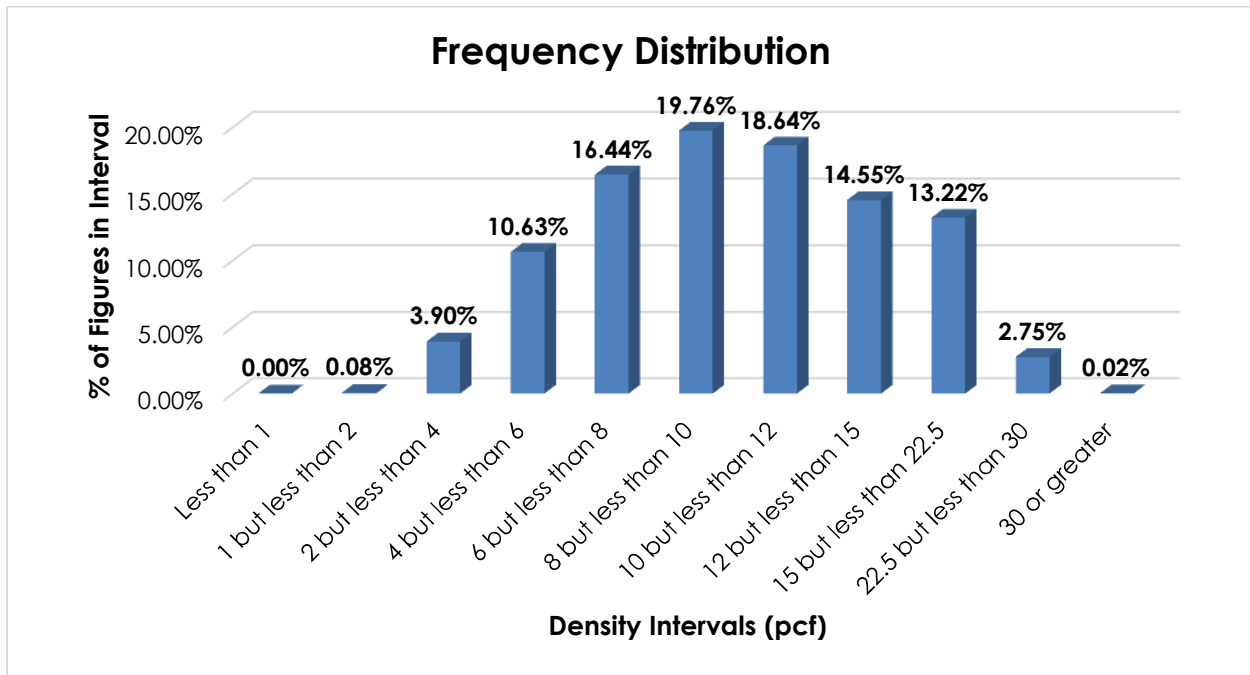
Introduction

This proposal is in response to indications that shipments of drugs or medicines, as embraced by item 58770, exhibit transportation characteristics inconsistent with the currently assigned classes.

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Transportation Characteristics

Density—The information of record includes 121,396 density observations submitted by a carrier and obtained from the FCDC’s Density Study¹. The densities range from 1.11 to 30.10 pcf, with an overall average density of 10.65 pcf. As shown in the graph below, the densities are widely distributed throughout most of the range.



Handling, Stowability and Liability—Care must be taken to avoid stowing the involved commodities with hazardous materials or other freight that may pose a contamination risk. They may also be damaged by freight with which stowed or by the elements. However, there have been no reports of unusual or significant handling, stowability or liability issues.

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing analysis, item 58770 would be amended to provide the FCDC’s standard 11-subprovision density scale².

Note, item 58772 would be amended for uniformity, and a new Note would be established to clarify the application of the item. The reference to Note, item 58692 would be removed.

¹ The Density Study is part of an ongoing effort by the FCDC to collect information on actual shipments across all product categories handled by the LTL industry. Carriers that choose to participate in the Study periodically submit shipment data captured through their respective freight auditing programs. The FCDC uses verifiable data points, identified by NMFC item, that include the weight and the dimensions and/or cube of the shipping unit.

² The FCDC’s standard 11-subprovision density scale includes reference to Item (Rule) 170, the inadvertence clause.

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Intermediate bulk containers (IBCs) would be added to the minimum packaging requirements, and references to bags, carboys and Package 2499 would be removed. Note, item 58773 would be canceled with no further application.