SUBJECT 22

Re: Fuel Cans, Containers, Dispensers or Tanks — Items 40215 and 40217

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Proponent: Freight Classification Development Council

Present Classification Provisions

Item	Description	Class
40215	**Cans, Containers, Dispensers or Tanks,** fuel storage, rectangular construction, with or without folding steel spouts, sheet steel 20 gauge or thicker, in boxes or in Package 2174:	
Sub 1	Rated or marked capacity not exceeding 2 1/2 gallons	92.5
Sub 2	Rated or marked capacity exceeding 2 1/2 gallons but not exceeding 5 gallons	100
40217	**Cans, Containers, Dispensers or Tanks,** sheet steel 24 gauge or thicker, other than rectangular, fuel storage, hand-portable safety type, with flash arrester and having a liquid capacity not exceeding 5 gallons, in boxes	125
	SHEET STEEL ARTICLES GROUP: subject to item 174300	
174610	**Containers, viz.:**	
	Cans, NOI, see Note, item 174612;	
	[Other Articles Listed—Not Involved.]	
	In packages, see Note, item 174613, 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
174611	NOTE—Not Involved.	
174612	NOTE—Not Involved.	
174613	NOTE—Barrels, drums or kegs having a rated (marked) capacity of 35 gallons or greater may be shipped loose.	

Package 2174

In fiberboard boxes complying with Item 222, except fiberboard must test 125 pounds when gross weight does not exceed 41 pounds and inside dimensions do not exceed 65 united inches, and fiberboard must test 175 pounds when gross weight does not exceed 58 pounds and inside dimensions do not exceed 70 united inches.

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Proposed Classification Provisions

Item	Description	Class
40215	**Cans, Containers, Dispensers or Tanks,** fuel storage, rectangular construction, with or without folding steel spouts, sheet steel 20 gauge or thicker, etc	⇉Cancel; see item 174610
40217	**Cans, Containers, Dispensers or Tanks,** sheet steel 24 gauge or thicker, other than rectangular, fuel storage, hand-portable safety type, with flash arrester and having a liquid capacity not exceeding 5 gallons, etc.....	⇉Cancel; see item 174610
	SHEET STEEL ARTICLES GROUP: subject to item 174300	
174610	**Containers, viz.:**	
	⇉**Cans, Containers, Dispensers or Tanks,** fuel or flammable liquid storage or dispensing, hand portable, with or without components of other materials;	
	Cans, NOI, see Note, item 174612;	
	[Other Articles Listed—No Change.]	
	⇉In packages, 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
174611	NOTE—No Change.	
174612	NOTE—No Change.	
174613	NOTE—⇉Cancel; no further application.	

Package 2174

⇉Cancel; no further application.

Analysis

Introduction

This proposal is in response to indications that shipments of fuel cans, containers, dispensers or tanks, as embraced by items 40215 and 40217, exhibit transportation characteristics inconsistent with the currently assigned classes.

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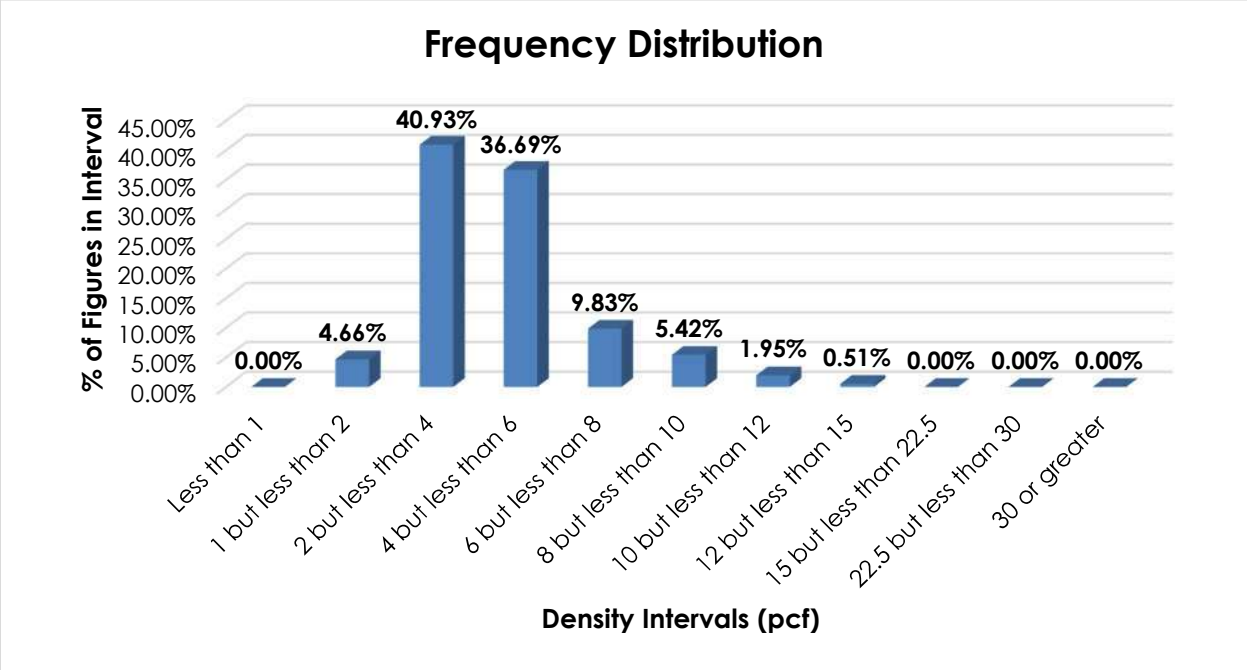
Transportation Characteristics

Density—The information of record includes 1,180 density observations submitted by a carrier and obtained from the FCDC's Density Study[1]. The densities range from 1.01 to 12.69 pcf, with an overall average density of 4.59 pcf. As shown in the graph below, the density distribution is right-skewed. While the distribution is tightly clustered, the average density is not reflected in the predominant peak.



Handling, Stowability and Liability—There have been no reports of unusual or significant handling, stowability or liability concerns.

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing analysis, this proposal would cancel items 40215 and 40217 with reference to the full-scale, density-based provisions of item 174610[2]. Concurrently, the "viz." listing in item 174610 would be amended accordingly. While the density distribution shown herein does not indicate a uniform distribution of densities throughout the range, these proposed changes would foster clarification and simplification by grouping related products together.

[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] Item 174610 provides the FCDC's standard 11-subprovision density scale, which includes reference to Item (Rule) 170, the inadvertence clause.

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Additionally, pursuant to the recommendation of the FCDC's Packaging Manager, Note, item 174613 and Package 2174 would be canceled with no further application.

