

## SUBJECT 32

**SUBJECT 32: Item (Rule) 685 – Packing or Packaging – Alternate Forms****Re:** Item (Rule) 685 – Packing or Packaging – Alternate Forms**Contact:** Larissa A. Franklin

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**Proponent:** Freight Classification Development Center**Quick View**

*The Quick View feature is not intended to replace contextual information within this document. To understand the potential impact of the recommended changes shown here, please read the full proposal.*

**Subject 32: Item (Rule) 685 – Packing or Packaging – Alternate Forms****Quick View:** Item (Rule) 685 would be canceled with no further application.

## SUBJECT 32

Present Classification Provisions

## Item 685

## Packing or Packaging – Alternate Forms

| When in the separate description of articles, no class is provided for an article in a container or shipping form shown below:                                                                                                                                             | Apply the class as provided for that article as if shipped in the container or shipping form indicated by an 'X' below (see Note 1). |                                                                        |                                                                  |                       |                                 |                            |                       |                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | B<br>A<br>G<br>S                                                                                                                     | Bales, not<br>compressed<br>or<br>compressed<br>to less than<br>20 pcf | Packages<br>compressed<br>to 20 pcf or<br>greater, see<br>Note 5 | B<br>O<br>X<br>E<br>S | B<br>U<br>N<br>D<br>L<br>E<br>S | C<br>R<br>A<br>T<br>E<br>S | D<br>R<br>U<br>M<br>S | I<br>N<br>P<br>A<br>C<br>K<br>A<br>G<br>E<br>S |
| Bags, as described in Item 200                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | -                                                                                                                                    | X                                                                      | X                                                                | -                     | X                               | X                          | -                     | X                                              |
| Bales, not compressed or compressed to less than 20 pcf, as described in Item 205                                                                                                                                                                                          | X                                                                                                                                    | -                                                                      | -                                                                | -                     | X                               | -                          | -                     | X                                              |
| Bales, compressed, as described in Item 205                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | -                                                                                                                                    | -                                                                      | -                                                                | X                     | X                               | -                          | -                     | X                                              |
| Boxes, as described in Items 220, 221 and 222                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | X                                                                                                                                    | X                                                                      | X                                                                | -                     | X                               | X                          | X                     | X                                              |
| Boxes, not complying with Items 220, 221 or 222                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | -                                                                                                                                    | X                                                                      | -                                                                | -                     | X                               | -                          | X                     | X                                              |
| Bundles, as described in Item 235                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | X                                                                                                                                    | X                                                                      | -                                                                | -                     | -                               | -                          | -                     | X                                              |
| Carboys, as described in Item 240 (see Note 2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | -                                                                                                                                    | -                                                                      | -                                                                | -                     | -                               | -                          | -                     | -                                              |
| Coils, as described in Item 235                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | X                                                                                                                                    | X                                                                      | -                                                                | -                     | X                               | -                          | -                     | X                                              |
| Containers, bulk commodity shipping (Intermediate Bulk Containers or IBCs), as described in Item 280                                                                                                                                                                       | X                                                                                                                                    | X                                                                      | X                                                                | X                     | X                               | X                          | X                     | X                                              |
| Crates, as described in Item 245                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | X                                                                                                                                    | X                                                                      | X                                                                | -                     | X                               | -                          | -                     | X                                              |
| Cylinders, as described in Item 250                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | -                                                                                                                                    | -                                                                      | -                                                                | X                     | -                               | -                          | X                     | X                                              |
| Drums, as described in Items 255, 256, 257, 258, 260, 291, 294 and 296                                                                                                                                                                                                     | X                                                                                                                                    | X                                                                      | X                                                                | X                     | X                               | X                          | -                     | X                                              |
| In glass or earthenware, in boxes as described in Item 222 (see Note 2)                                                                                                                                                                                                    | -                                                                                                                                    | -                                                                      | -                                                                | X                     | -                               | X                          | -                     | X                                              |
| In glass or earthenware, in crates as described in Item 245 (see Note 2)                                                                                                                                                                                                   | -                                                                                                                                    | -                                                                      | -                                                                | -                     | -                               | -                          | -                     | X                                              |
| In metal cans                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | -                                                                                                                                    | -                                                                      | -                                                                | -                     | -                               | -                          | -                     | X                                              |
| Loose                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | -                                                                                                                                    | -                                                                      | -                                                                | -                     | -                               | -                          | -                     | -                                              |
| Pails, as described in Item 225 (see Note 6)                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | X                                                                                                                                    | X                                                                      | X                                                                | X                     | X                               | X                          | X                     | X                                              |
| Reels, as described in Item 235                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | X                                                                                                                                    | X                                                                      | X                                                                | -                     | X                               | X                          | -                     | X                                              |
| Rolls, as described in Item 235                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | X                                                                                                                                    | X                                                                      | X                                                                | -                     | X                               | -                          | -                     | X                                              |
| Skids, Pallets, Platforms or Racks, lift truck, without bodies or enclosures, or with bodies or enclosures of other than metal or wood, or with only standards or stacking posts, with or without top members; complying in all other respects with provisions of Item 265 | -                                                                                                                                    | X                                                                      | X                                                                | -                     | X                               | -                          | -                     | X                                              |
| Skids, Pallets, Platforms or Racks, lift truck, metal or wood, with metal or wood bodies or enclosures, or with standards or stacking posts and side or end members, with or without top members; complying in all other respects with provisions of Item 265 (see Note 4) | X                                                                                                                                    | X                                                                      | X                                                                | X                     | X                               | X                          | X                     | X                                              |
| Skids, other than lift truck, as described in Item 270 (see Note 3)                                                                                                                                                                                                        | -                                                                                                                                    | -                                                                      | -                                                                | -                     | -                               | -                          | -                     | -                                              |
| Tank Trucks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | -                                                                                                                                    | -                                                                      | -                                                                | -                     | -                               | -                          | X                     | -                                              |
| Tubes, as described in Item 275                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | X                                                                                                                                    | X                                                                      | X                                                                | -                     | X                               | X                          | X                     | X                                              |

**Note 1**—Except as otherwise provided in this section, when no alternate container or shipping form is indicated in the above table by the letter 'X,' the provisions of Item 687 will apply. When more than one alternate container or shipping form is indicated, the lowest class provided shall apply.

**Note 2**—When no alternate container or shipping form is indicated above by the letter 'X' apply the higher of: (1) the highest class applicable to any authorized shipping form for the quantity shipped; or (2) class 100.

## SUBJECT 32

**Present Classification Provisions—Concluded****Item 685****Packing or Packaging – Alternate Forms—Concluded**

**Note 3**—The provisions of Item 687 will not apply if in the separate description of articles provision is made for 'loose' shipment or if no packages or forms of shipment are named.

**Note 4**—Alternation with 'boxes,' 'crates' or 'drums' not applicable when only one bare or wrapped article is fastened to lift truck skid, pallet or platform.

**Note 5**—Packages or form of shipment authorized to alternate with this provision must meet the density requirements specified in the individual commodity descriptions or as specified in Item 205(b).

**Note 6**—Pails will be allowed to alternate with drums only when pails are 3 gallons or greater in capacity.

**Proposed Classification Provisions****Item 685****Packing or Packaging – Alternate Forms**

⇒Cancel; no further application.

**Analysis and Conclusion**

FCDC packaging policies state that the FCDC is to establish and maintain packaging rules and specifications as necessary to ensure that freight is adequately protected and can be handled and stowed in a manner that is reasonably safe and practicable so as to withstand the normal rigors of the less-than-truckload environment. Currently, Item (Rule) 685 permits the use of alternative packing or packaging methods other than those stipulated in the minimum packaging requirements of items within the NMFC. Not only does the complexity of Item (Rule) 685 make it unduly difficult to interpret and apply, but it also undermines the assigned minimum packaging requirements presently found in individual NMFC items. Therefore, it would be in keeping with FCDC packaging policies to cancel Item (Rule) 685 with no further application.