



NOTICE 25-2016: CUSTOMER UPDATE - SOLAS VGM

July 1st, 2016

The International Maritime Organization's (IMO) new regulation regarding the Safety of Life at Sea Convention (SOLAS) obliges that Shippers declare the Verified Gross Mass (VGM) of their containers to the carrier/shipping agent prior to loading. This requirement becomes effective today, **Friday 1st July, 2016**.

Please be advised that the Weighbridge Facility at the Port of Point Lisas has been certified by the Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards (TTBS) as an approved weighing station and will continue to be in compliance with SOLAS requirements.

For your guidance, PLIPDECO has provided weighing facilities for full exports for the past ten (10) years, and at this time, there has been no change to our existing procedure for the receipt of full export containers for loading. A summarized version of the said procedure is provided below:

- i) On arrival at Port Point Lisas, the Truck Driver proceeds to the Weighbridge.
- ii) The Truck and Trailer weights are provided to the Weighbridge Operator (WO).
- iii) Payment is provided to the WO.
- iv) The Gross Weight (Truck, Trailer and Full Container) is taken by the WO.
- v) Net Weight is printed on Weighbridge Ticket (Full Container - Truck + Trailer weight).
- vi) The printed Weighbridge Ticket is given to the Truck driver.
- vii) Truck driver proceeds to the Port's In-Gate.
- viii) Container is surveyed.
- ix) Truck driver approaches In-gate Clerk.
- x) Truck driver presents the C82, Shipping Bill, Port Pass, Driver's Permit and Weighbridge Ticket to In-gate Clerk.
- xi) Container is processed in NAVIS Terminal Operating System, weight entered and EIR or Drop-off Ticket is printed, a copy is provided to the truck driver.
- xii) Security checks are completed and truck/container is allowed into the Port for off-loading.

We anticipate that within the next three (3) weeks there would be some level of revision to the above procedure; however, we will keep you advised of these changes in moving forward.

In addition, shippers are kindly asked to contact the respective shipping lines/agents to obtain their requirements regarding the handling and communication of the VGM data.

Sincerely,

Marketing & Business Development Department
PLIPDECO