



# EVERGREEN LINE

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

### **IMPORTANT REMINDER: U.S. Export Shipments – Complying With SOLAS VGM**

July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Dear Valued Evergreen Customer:

During 2016, the International Maritime Organization amended the Safety of Life at Sea Convention to require, of every U.S. export container, a shipper submitted “Verified Gross Mass” (“VGM”). The VGM is the container’s tare weight plus the weight of the cargo and other material stuffed inside. Containers with no submitted VGM may not be loaded aboard ship.

More recently, concerns have been made regarding incorrect or missing VGM calculations, or a lack of response when being contacted in this regard. Your cooperation in this matter is essential as this value must be accurately calculated and compliance is not optional. Should you require a correction to manifest data or need assistance determining the VGM, please contact the Evergreen Customer Service Department to ensure marine safety and data accuracy.

A. The approved methods of submitting the VGM to Evergreen Line are as follows:

- Method 1 - Weighing the loaded container using calibrated and certified equipment and transmitting that gross mass to Evergreen, along with the signature of a person duly authorized by shipper using EDI or other means of transmission as specified in part D, below.
- Method 2 - Weighing all packages and cargo items in the container, including pallets, dunnage, and securing materials packed in the container, and then adding that to the tare weight of the container printed on the outside of the container doors of the applicable loaded container to obtain the total gross mass of the container. This total gross mass shall be submitted to Evergreen along with the signature of a person duly authorized by shipper using EDI or other means of transmission as set forth in part D, below.

B. In Gate Weighing Alternative - In conjunction with the U.S. Coast Guard and Participating Terminals identified on our websites, weights calculated on terminal scales that meet U.S. Coast Guard equivalency for the purposes of SOLAS when containers are in gated at Participating Terminals will constitute VGM for all SOLAS purposes subject to shipper’s election to use this alternative. If shipper elects to use this alternative, it shall be deemed to have appointed the Terminal to weigh the container and provide the gross mass to Evergreen as a VGM equivalent on shipper’s behalf.

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C. Where in gate weighing is not available - When a loaded container cannot be, or is not, weighed at the load port terminal for any reason, shipper shall provide a certified VGM in accordance with Method 1 or 2 above. Alternatively, for IPI export on dock rail cargo, Evergreen will accept the verified gross cargo weight, including weight of the cargo plus the weight of the packaging materials, pallets and dunnage, which verified weight is set forth in the applicable rail bill and Evergreen will add the container tare weight to such verified gross cargo weight to obtain the final VGM

D. For shippers who submit their own VGM in accordance with Method 1 or 2 above, the same can be submitted in the following preferred formats:

- (a) EDI Message (VERMAS, 304 Message, IFTMIN);
- (b) Portal Service (GT Nexus, Cargo Smart, Other);
- (c) Evergreen Line's web portal: <http://www.shipmentlink.com>;
- (d) Mobile App

Manual methods of submission will be accepted but not encouraged because of the delays and documentation errors inherent in such methods. In the event shipper chooses to transmit the VGM by email, such email should be sent to one of the following addresses:

VGMDLS@evergreen-shipping.us

VGMLAX@evergreen-shipping.us

VGMNYC@evergreen-shipping.us

VGMVCR@evergreen-shipping.us

E. Notwithstanding the foregoing, should local authorities or terminals impose any further obligations or costs on a container in connection with the SOLAS VGM, further compliance and costs of same shall be the responsibility of the Shipper. A container's VGM is by law the responsibility of the shipper in all circumstances including a refusal to accept or acknowledge a VGM submitted in any of the above methods opted for by the shipper.

F. Please understand that the above provisions are only applicable to containers loading at US port terminals and are inapplicable to containerized cargoes loading at Canadian port terminals due to regulatory requirements in Canada. US origin cargoes loading via a Canadian port terminal are also subject to Canadian regulatory requirements.

If you have any questions, please contact your Evergreen Sales Representative. A comprehensive contact list can be found by visiting <https://www.evergreen-shipping.us/egsweb/jsp/officelist.jsp>

Thank you for your business and continued support.

**Evergreen Shipping Agency (America) Corp.,  
as Agent for: EVERGREEN LINE**