



## **Reinstatement and Extension of PHMSA Policy on Shipping Hand Sanitizers**

On April 10, 2020, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) published a [temporary policy on the transportation of certain alcohol-based hand sanitizer products](#) during the COVID-19 public health emergency. This temporary policy was effective on products manufactured and packaged before July 10, 2020. On June 24, 2020, PHMSA published an [extension of the temporary policy](#) until October 31, 2020.

### **Aren't most hand sanitizers excepted from the HMR?**

Many hand sanitizers available for retail sale are shipped under the exceptions found in 49 CFR [173.150\(g\), Limited Quantities of Retail Products Containing Ethyl Alcohol](#). Hand sanitizers shipped under this paragraph are excepted from all requirements of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR).

PHMSA's April 10, 2020 notice provided relief for several companies producing hand sanitizer products under an FDA guidance in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These hand sanitizers were shipped in larger packages or at a greater alcohol content.

Packages shipped under the original guidance could be excepted from marking, packaging, and training requirements under certain conditions.

### **Why is the policy being reinstated and extended?**

The enforcement relief granted in the first two policy statements expired on October 31, 2020. PHMSA has since learned that several companies had not shipped all of the product that was manufactured and packaged before that date. As a result, PHMSA has [reinstated and extended the temporary policy](#) until March 31, 2021.

The extension of the relief is only for materials that were manufactured or packaged before October 31, 2020, under the FDA guidance. Any shipment of hand sanitizer manufactured or packaged after October 31, 2020, must be shipped in compliance with the HMR.