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***Part I: Dangerous Goods***  
**Overview**

Dangerous Goods: Overview

## What are dangerous goods?

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## Why is this presentation important?

- By law, any person who causes dangerous goods to be transported by public carrier must follow certain dangerous goods shipping regulations, including:
  - Sendout staff
  - Transporters of dangerous goods
  - Receivers of dangerous goods

Why am I here? Why is this presentation important?

- Legally, anyone who causes dangerous goods to be transported by public carrier must follow specific regulations. This includes sendout staff, those who transport dangerous goods, and those who receive dangerous goods.
- It's imperative to follow the regulations and to follow them correctly. If they are, your specimen will not leak or be crushed in transit.
- Keep in mind that there are numerous regulations that change all the time. One person cannot understand or remember all the regulations, so don't be afraid to ask or call someone if you are unsure.

## Who determines these regulations?

- Federal and state agencies have different regulations and guidelines
- Acronyms are commonly used:
  - **IATA** – International Air Transport Association
  - **ICAO** – International Civil Aviation Organization
  - **DOT** – Department of Transportation
  - **49 CFR** – Code of Federal Regulations

Who determines these regulations?

- Various federal and state agencies

These agencies are often referred to by acronyms, which are used throughout this presentation:

- ICAO is the International Civil Aviation Organization. ICAO is a specialized agency of the United Nations that develops and maintains principles and arrangements to ensure the safety of international civil aviation. ICAO is the law.
- IATA is International Air Transport Association, which is an association of airlines. IATA is not the law although you must follow their regulations if you want the airline to take your shipment. IATA closely follows ICAO's regulations. IATA publishes dangerous goods regulations every two years. These regulations are the easiest to read and follow.
- DOT is the U.S. Department of Transportation.
- 49 CFR is the code of Federal Regulations—it is a document published by the US Government with regulations regarding transporting hazardous materials focusing mostly on ground transportation. However, it also contains information regarding transporting hazmat by air, rail, and boat. 49 CFR is the law in the United States. The CFR is modified periodically and the changes are written in the Federal Register. We subscribe to a service that reads the Federal Register for us and lets us know when any changes may pertain to us.

## What are these regulations?

- Laboratories must abide by the following regulations:
  - Proper classification of specimens
  - Proper packaging of specimens
  - Proper labeling of specimens
  - Proper documentation of specimens for transport
  - Proper training of employees who handle specimens
- This presentation provides detail about each of these regulations

### What are these regulations?

- The regulations imposed on most laboratories are related to specimen classification, packaging, labeling, documentation, and the proper training of staff.
- This presentation covers each of these regulations in detail.
- Every mode of transportation has its own rules that we must follow in addition to the legal regulations.
- It's the responsibility of the sendout staff to follow regulations, and it's the employer's responsibility to train the individual to follow the regulations.
- When in doubt, the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations and the 49 CFR guidelines can help you prepare a specimen for shipment.