



News Release



Milan, 21/04/2016

To all Customers

THE SOLAS CONVENTION

Dear Customers,

We wish to bring to your knowledge the entry into force of an important measure that may have a deep impact over Companies actively engaged in seafreight exports to foreign countries:

The International SOLAS Convention (Safety of Life at Sea)

The introduction, as from 1st July 2016 of the SOLAS Convention requires the submission of a certified statement of the weight of each container shipped, (VGM Certification) through the Port Terminal, prior to the acceptance of shipment by the Ocean Carrier.

This Convention, issued by the INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION, has worldwide application from 1 July 2016 in order to increase security in the Maritime Transportation.

The Shipper of the goods **must certify the exact weight of the goods, made with weighing instruments whose standards are presently under definition by law.** In case of discrepancy between weight declared and weight ascertained, the container will be stopped with resulting delays and expenses **for which shipper will be responsible.**

Despite the deadline approaching, many states, including our own, have not yet been stating official guidelines for implementation of the Convention, like precise characteristics of scales, tolerances allowed, etc.

Through a continuous action, coordinated by their National Maritime Section, our Freight Forwarders Federation has brought to the competent authorities all the necessary information for a smooth implementation of the new legislation in order to achieve uniformity of treatment in all European ports.

ALLTRANS will continue to closely monitor the development of the situation and will give notice to its customers once application methods will be defined by the competent authorities.

Our Sales Dept. is meanwhile available for any information and clarifications.

Cordially,

General Management

