

Safety Precautions for Handling of Jumbo Bags

- Packages of these commodities shall be in a sound condition and shall be conformed to packaging, marking, labelling standards applicable.
- Proper segregation and compatibility of cargo as given in the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) shall be strictly followed.
- Handling and transportation of this consignment shall be carried out as per the all relevant Regulations of the Dock Workers' (Safety, Health and Welfare) Regulations, 1990 and other applicable Safety Rules / Requirements.
- Handling and transportation shall be carried with appropriate lifting appliances, loose gears with safe method/procedure under the expert supervision & presence of '*Responsible Person*' of the agent/exporter/importer, having requisite experience of handling of such cargo.
- Open flames, lighting of fire, welding, cutting or any hot work and smoking shall not be carried in vicinity of these consignments.
- Damaged or faulty packages of any such cargo shall not be accepted in any circumstances.
- Always follow all the precautions given in the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) of that commodity.
- Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) shall be kept at every site of handling and all dock workers working thereat are aware about the irritant nature of this cargo.
- Transportation, handling and storage shall be under done, under control of Responsible Person of Agent/Exporter.
- Start handling of bags by ensuring it is visually free from any damage that may compromise its strength or carrying ability. If you see a rip, a loose seam or any other deformity, do not attempt to fill the bulk bag. It should be removed and given a thorough inspection before handling.
- When transporting by truck, stow the cargo in a safe and stable fashion. It must not be transported with other cargo with sharp edges or rough surfaces that can damage the bags.
- While transportation, ensure that truck bed is covered with tarpaulin so that no spill is occurred on road.
- While transporting or storage in shed, a pyramid method shall be used. Under the Pyramid Method, each bag above the first layer must rest on at least four lower bags. Each subsequent layer is tiered inward, forming a pyramid-shaped structure.
- It is also imperative that all lifting mechanisms, whether they be crane hooks, bars or fork lift, etc., are free from protrusions or any other sharp edges that may potentially cut or tear the lift loops on the bags. All lifting mechanisms must have rounded edges with a radius of at least five mm.
- If forklift is used for handling in shed or ship's cargo hold, then proper exhaust protection shall be used.
- Avoid scraping the bag against the wall or any surface or ship's side or the hold's walls or opening
- Avoid shock loading (sudden stops or jerks) of bags.

- If bags are placed temporarily on the dock to await transport or storage in sheds, ensure the area is clear of sharp obstacles such as stones, pieces of wood, or scrap metal to avoid damage to the base of the bags.
- When carried on trailers, ensure that it is evenly distribute, securely lash, and before handling ensure that bag is free from damage that can compromise its strength.
- The crane/hoist or forklift has a sufficiently rated weight capacity to support the filled bag.
- The crane's hooks, bars or forklift used for lifting don't have sharp edges that may cause damage to the bag's lift loops or sleeves.
- That all devices that are handling bags are designed specifically to do so.
- All lift loops/sleeves are vertical to prevent damage.
- The bag is lifted and suspended per the manufacturer and supplier's instructions.
- The bag is raised and lowered smoothly.
- All personnel wear all the personal protective equipment and stay clear of any potential hazards.
- The distance between the forklift forks are correct width for the bag that is being handled.
- The forklift operator holds the bag close to the mast as low as possible, tilted back to a proper angle.
- Any pallets being used are the appropriate size for the bag.
- The forklift operator has a clear line of site before moving the bag.
- The forklift is stopped before raising or lowering the bag.
- All personnel are clear before lifting or lowering a bag.
- Never Lift a bag with one hook unless it is specifically designed to be.
- If vision of machinery operator is obstructed, then handling shall be done with the help of signalman.
- Never allow movement of any personnel under a suspended bag.
- Never allow any personnel to place a limb under a suspended bag.
- Never lift a bag with fewer lift loops or sleeves than provided.
- Never tilt the mast of the forklift truck forward when handling a bag.
- Never move a bag when the bag is touching the ground.
- Never allow a bag to come in contact with the forklift wheels.
- Never lower or raise a bag when the forklift is moving.
- Always store your new and/or used bags in a safe and clean facility that protects them from direct sun light or UV rays as they weaken the strength of the bag over the time.
- Take care to cover your bags to prevent them from being exposed to dirt, dust, and moisture within your facility or an environment where it will be exposed to inclement weather, as this will weaken the strength of the bag over time.
- During storage ensure that the bags are stable when stacking and after storage. Each day round shall be taken by the staff posted thereat to check the stability of bags storage or hang over the side.
- Never repair a damaged bag in a stack without removing all bags stacked on top of it.
- Proper arrangements shall be done to collect any spills that occurred during transportation and storage. Then is shall be safety disposed off by applicable method as per the law.
- No prolonged storage of such cargo shall be allowed. It should be cleared immediately to avoid any risk to any persons working thereat.