



**Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland**

**An Institiúid Éireannach um Chosaint Raideolaíoch**

**Guidance Note on the administrative requirements for the Import and  
Export of Sealed Radioactive Sources**



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Radioactive Sources**

**Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland**  
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## **Import and Export of Sealed Radioactive Sources**

In accordance with the Radiological Protection Act 1991 (Ionising Radiation) Order S.I. No. 125 of 2000, an application for a licence to import and / or export a radioactive source must be made to the RPII not later than one month before the proposed commencement of the practice concerned. The practice must not be commenced by the applicant unless and until the licence has been granted by the RPII. A person using or holding sealed radioactive sources without a valid licence may be liable on summary conviction to a substantial fine and/or a term of imprisonment.

The Application Provisions of the Radiological Protection Act 1991 (Licensing Application and Fees) Regulations, S.I. No. 654 of 2007 also specify that an application for an amendment of a licence must be made to the RPII before the proposed implementation of the change in respect of the practice concerned. The change in practice must not be implemented by the applicant unless and until the licence has been amended by the RPII. An application for an amendment to a licence must be made using the appropriate form and information included on a) the justification for the proposed amendment and b) a revised risk assessment and revised radiation safety procedures as appropriate.

### Sources to be shipped from Ireland to another EU Country

1. A Schedule 2 Amendment Form for sealed sources must be completed and forwarded to the RPII for authorisation to remove the source. Confirmation of receipt of the source by the consignee is required before it can be removed from the licensee's inventory.
2. The Standard Document pursuant to Council Regulation 1493/93 must be completed by the consignee and stamped by the relevant regulator and forwarded to the RPII in advance of the proposed shipment.
3. A current Certificate of Test of Leakage (Wipe Test Certificate) must accompany the amendment request.

### Sources to be shipped from another EU Country to Ireland

1. A Schedule 2 Amendment Form for sealed sources must be completed and forwarded to the RPII for authorisation to bring in the source.
2. The Standard Document pursuant to Council Regulation 1493/93 must be completed by the consignee and stamped by the RPII in advance of the shipment.
3. A current Certificate of Test of Leakage (Wipe Test Certificate) must accompany the amendment request.
4. Documentary evidence that the supplier will accept return of the source(s) when no longer required (take-back agreement).

### Sources to be shipped from Ireland to a Country outside of the EU (Export)

1. A Schedule 2 Amendment Form for sealed sources must be completed and forwarded to the RPII for authorisation to remove the source. Confirmation of receipt of the source by the consignee is required before it can be removed from the licensee's inventory.
2. In addition to the general licence an Export licence is required for the source being exported. Correspondence to the RPII requesting an Export licence should specify the source serial number, activity and consignee address.
3. A current Certificate of Test of Leakage (Wipe Test Certificate) must accompany the amendment request.

### Sources to be shipped from outside the EU into Ireland (Import)

1. A Schedule 2 Amendment Form for sealed sources must be completed and forwarded to the RPII for authorisation to bring in the source.
2. In addition to the general licence an Import licence is required for the source being imported. Correspondence to the RPII should specify the source serial number, activity and consignee address.
3. A current Certificate of Test of Leakage (Wipe Test Certificate) must accompany the amendment request.
4. Documentary evidence that the supplier will accept return of the source(s) when no longer required (take-back agreement).

### **Notes**

For some categories of sources, in particular Category 1 (defined by the IAEA in the Safety Guide, IAEA Safety Standards Series No RS-G-1.9 2005) sources used in industrial sterilisation or equivalent may require in addition, Regulator to Regulator consent.

For Special Form sources, the current valid version of the IAEA Certificate of Competent Authority Special Form Radioactive Materials Certificate is also required.

For sources that fall under the Radiological Protection Act, 1991 (Control of High Activity Sealed Radioactive Sources) Order 2005, S. I. No. 875 of 2005 amendments must be made using the a Schedule 2 Amendment Form for HASS Sources and the appropriate HASS record form completed. The HASS record form is included in the Guidance Note on High Activity Sealed Sources.

Sources may only be transported in the licensees' vehicles (if transport is included on the licence) or in the vehicles of distributors / carriers / transport service providers licensed by the RPII. Transport must be undertaken in compliance with the current ADR, IMO, IATA, ICAO requirements.

All relevant forms are available upon request from the RPII or can be downloaded from the RPII website at [www.rpii.ie](http://www.rpii.ie).

## **References**

1. Radiological Protection Act, 1991 (No. 9 of 1991).
2. Radiological Protection (Amendment) Act, 2002 (No 3 of 2002).
3. Radiological Protection Act, 1991 (Ionising radiation) Order, 2000 S.I. No 125 of 2000.
4. Radiological Protection Act, 1991 (Control of High Activity Sealed Sources) Order 2005, S.I. No 875 of 2005.
5. Radiological Protection Act, 1991 (Licence Application and Fees) Regulations, S.I. No 654 of 2007.
6. Council Regulation (Euratom) No 1493/93 of 8 June 1993 on Shipments of Radioactive Sources between Member States.
7. Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland, Guidance on High Activity Sealed Sources, RPII, March 2009.
8. International Atomic Energy Agency, Categorisation of Radioactive Sources, IAEA Safety Standards Series No RS-G-1.9, IAEA, Vienna, 2005.
9. ADR. European Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of dangerous Goods by Road. UNECE.
10. IMO. International Maritime Organisation 'International maritime Dangerous Goods Code'.
11. IATA. International Air Transport Association ' Dangerous Goods Regulations'.
12. ICAO. International Civil Aviation Organisation 'Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air'.



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## **Mission Statement**

“To protect people from the harmful effects of ionising radiation, both natural and man-made, through effective regulation, monitoring of the environment and the provision of accurate and timely advice to the public and to Government”

## **Contact us**

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