

APPENDIX 3 – PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS

Carriage of articles to which this appendix relates is prohibited unless the article is packaged and presented in the manner described below.

Food, including Potentially Hazardous Food

The parcel delivery network operated by Australia Post is not temperature controlled. Customers must consider whether Australia Post's ambient temperature network is the most appropriate way of transporting food, including any Potentially Hazardous Foods. Where customers have formed a view that Australia Post's services are appropriate for transporting their food products, including any Potentially Hazardous Foods, they must ensure:

- *the food is packed in sufficiently insulated packaging and the package contains appropriate temperature control devices to prevent spoilage of the food and ensure it is safe to consume when it arrives at its destination;*
- *the food is packed so as to prevent any odour from the contents, or the contents themselves, from escaping; and*
- *any other conditions related to different types of substances (e.g. liquids, pastes etc) are complied with.*

Customers must ensure food is packed with sufficient insulation and temperature control devices to take account of what might happen if there are delivery delays, and consider whether any delay could affect the quality and safety of the product being sent.

Australia Post prohibits the consignment of food, including Potentially Hazardous Food, where these conditions are not met.

Liquids

A liquid is properly packed for carriage by post if:

- *it is enclosed in a leak-proof container made of glass, metal, polythene or plastic material with a secure closure; and*
- *the container is placed in a box of metal, wood, strong plastic material or strong corrugated cardboard which contains enough sawdust, cotton wool or other appropriate protective material to absorb the substance should the container break;*
- *the box has a lid which is so fixed that it cannot easily work loose; and*
- *where the container is a can with an un-crimped, friction-fitted lid, that lid must be fastened to the can by spot soldering in at least four places evenly spaced around the lid.*

Pastes, powders and tablets

A paste, powder or tablet is properly packed for carriage by post if:

- *being a paste which will easily liquefy, it is packed as for a liquid;*
- *being a paste which will not easily liquefy, it is first enclosed in a box, plastic or cloth bag, or similar secure covering, which in turn is placed in a box of wood, metal or other material strong enough to prevent the contents from leaking due to fracture;*
- *being a dry non-colouring powder, it is first placed in a container of metal, wood, strong plastic material or cardboard which is then placed in a box of those materials;*

- *being a dry colouring powder, it is first placed in a leak-proof box of metal, wood or strong plastic which is then placed in a box of wood, strong plastic material or corrugated cardboard with sawdust or other appropriate protective and absorbent material between the two containers; or*
- *being in tablet form, it is enclosed in securely fastened bottles or cans protected by a strong container, or is enclosed in a strong container made up of a sealed inner section which slides into another section to form a tightly fitting and completely closed container.*

Sharp objects

An article containing an object with a sharp edge or point which is not equipped with a securely fitted sheath or guard, is properly packed for carriage by post if it is placed in a rigid container and the sharp edge or point is wrapped in or covered by cork, polyurethane foam or other suitable material which will prevent cutting or puncturing of the outer wrapping of the article containing the object. The outer wrapping must be of metal, wood, strong plastic or other rigid material.