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**SHIPPERS' PROGRAMME 2015-2016**



**Module 1**

# **Terms Used for Shipping Infectious Substances**



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## Overview

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- ☣ Dangerous goods
- ☣ Infectious substances
- ☣ Cultures and patient specimens
- ☣ Packaging
- ☣ Labels
- ☣ Markings
- ☣ Exercise: Differences between P620 and P650



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## **What are dangerous goods?**



## **Dangerous goods**

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- ☣ Dangerous goods pose a risk during transport
- ☣ There are nine classes of dangerous goods
- ☣ Three are important to shippers of infectious substances
  - ☣ Class 3: Flammable liquids
  - ☣ **Class 6: Toxic and infectious substances**
  - ☣ Class 9: Miscellaneous dangerous substances and articles, including environmentally hazardous substances





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## **What are infectious substances?**



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## **Infectious substances (class 6.2)**

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☠ Under the dangerous goods classification – class 6.2

☠ Class 6.2 addresses:

1. Infectious substances (Category A)
2. Biological substances (Category B)
3. Biological products
4. Genetically modified microorganisms and organisms
5. Medical or clinical waste
6. Infected live animals
7. Exempt human/animal patient specimens
8. Other exemptions



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## **Category A – infectious substances**

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An infectious substance which is transported in a form that, when exposure to it occurs, is capable of causing permanent disability, life-threatening or fatal disease in otherwise healthy humans or animals.





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## **Category B – biological substances**

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An infectious substance which does not meet the criteria for inclusion in Category A and has not been determined by a medical professional to have a minimal likelihood that pathogens are present.







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**What is the difference between cultures  
and patient specimens?**



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## **Cultures and patient specimens**

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- ⚠ Cultures are incubated samples (with purpose of multiplying pathogens)
- ⚠ Patient specimens are collected directly from humans/animals
- ⚠ These differences are important for the classification of infectious substances
- ⚠ This classification will affect the choice of packaging





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**What are some terms you have  
heard related to packaging of  
infectious substances?**



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## **Packaging terms**

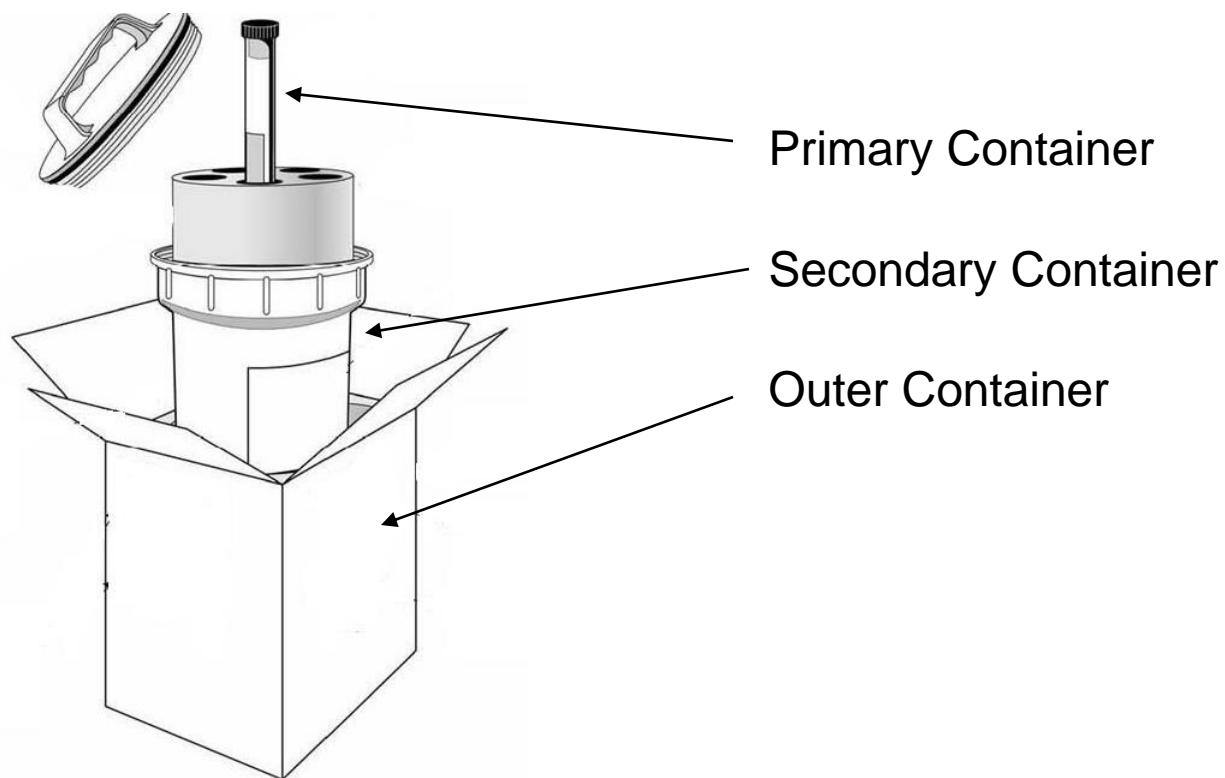
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- ☣ Triple packaging
- ☣ Primary, secondary and outer containers
- ☣ Packing instruction 620 (P620)
- ☣ Packing instruction 650 (P650)
- ☣ UN approved packaging
- ☣ Overpacks



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## Triple packaging

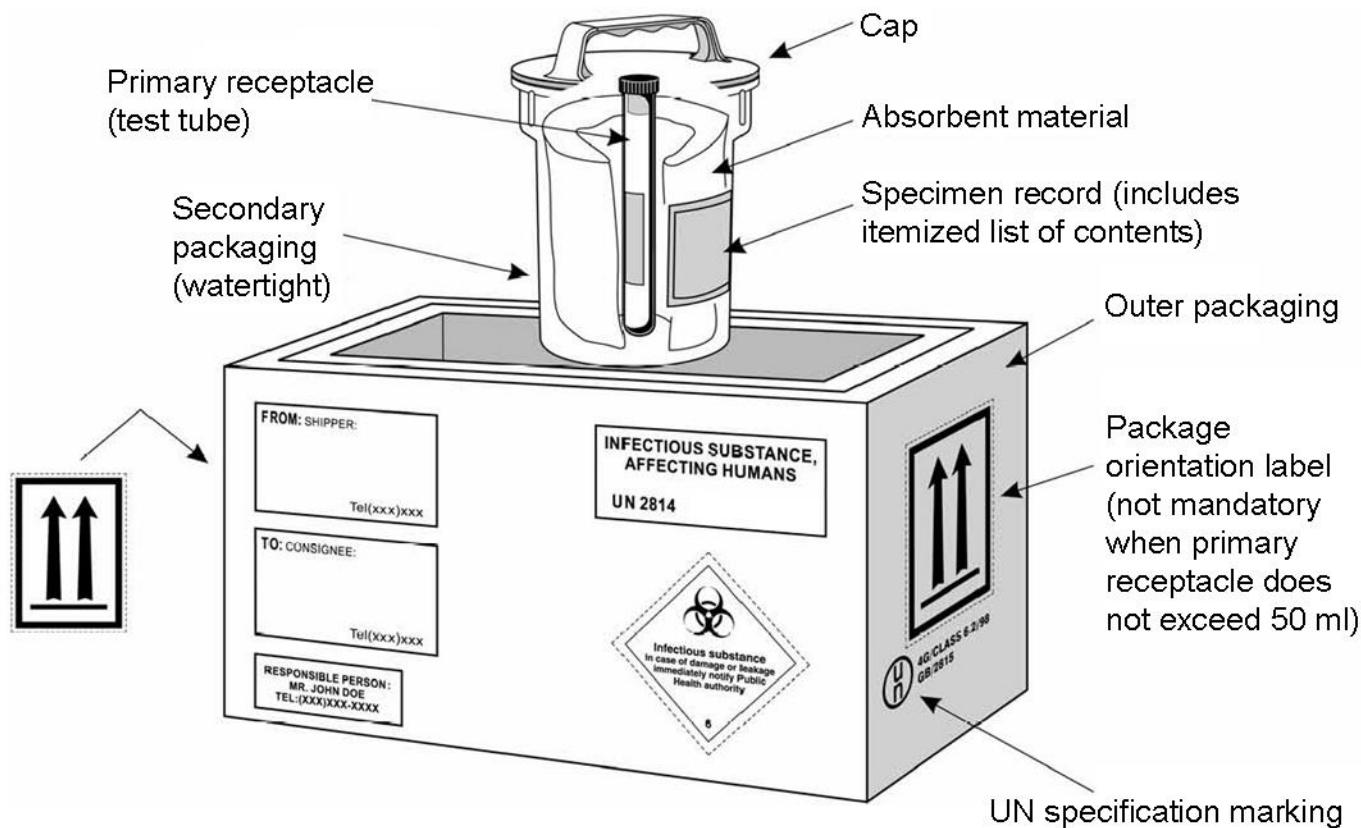




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## Packing instruction 620 (P620)

This packaging is used for Category A infectious substances





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## **UN Specification marking**

This symbol means the packaging has passed a series of tests.  
UN approved packaging is required for P620.

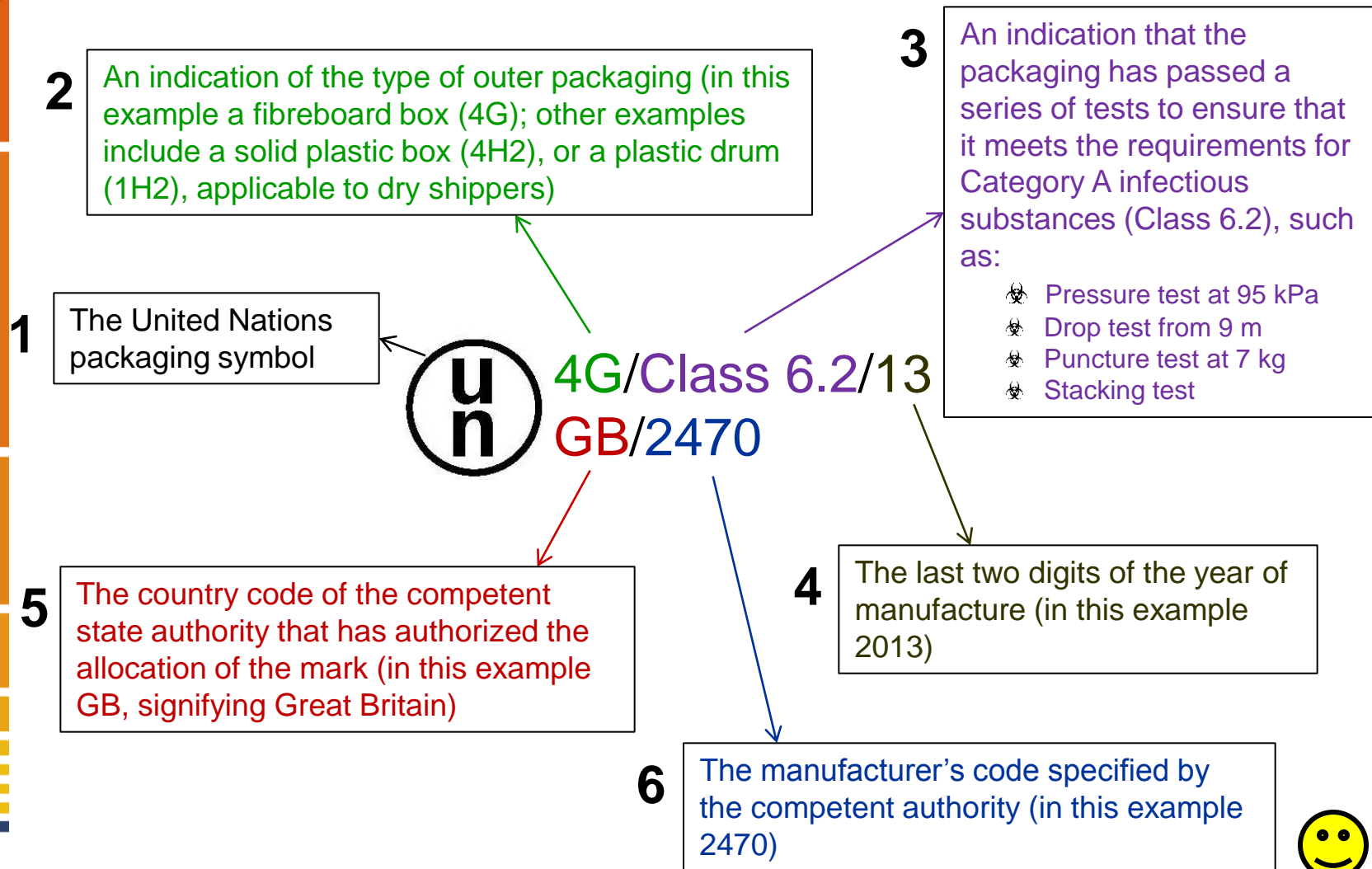


**4G/CLASS 6.2/05**  
**GB/2470**



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## UN Specification marking

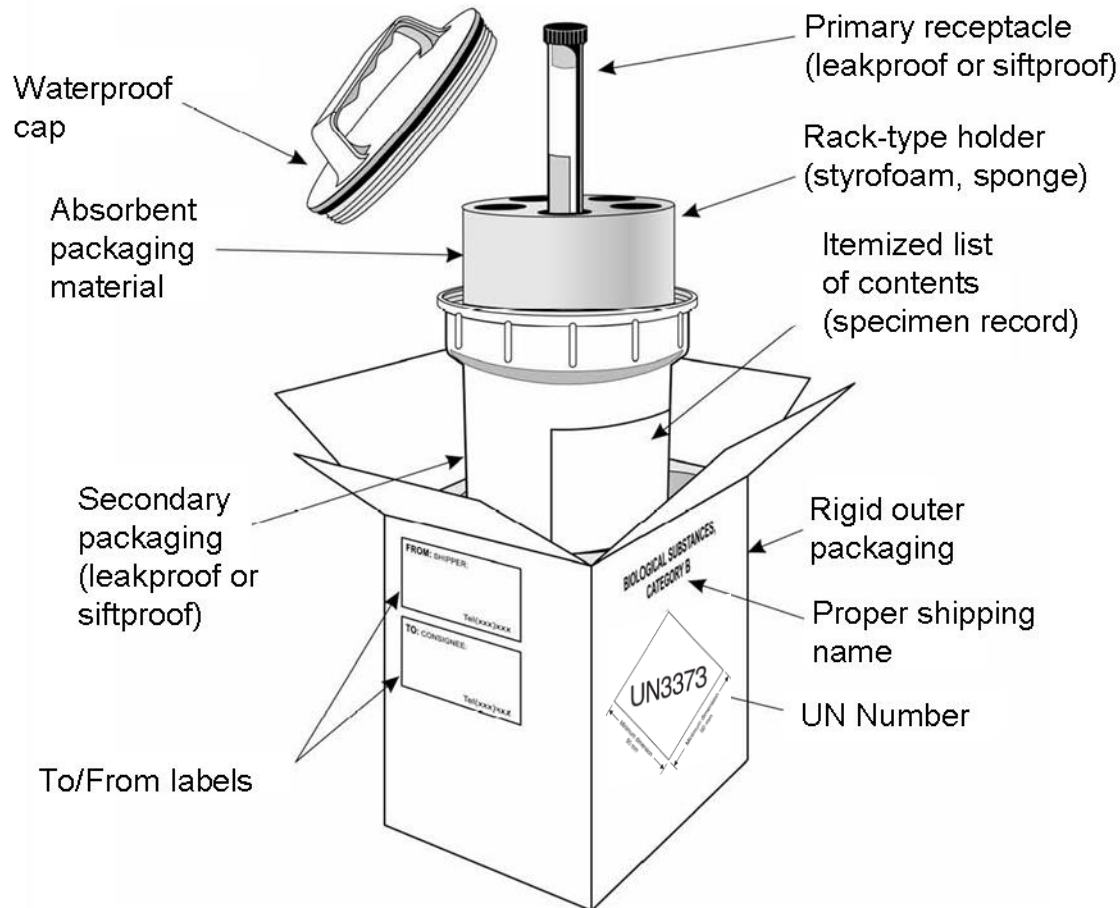




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## Packing instruction 650 (P650)

This packaging is used for Category B biological materials





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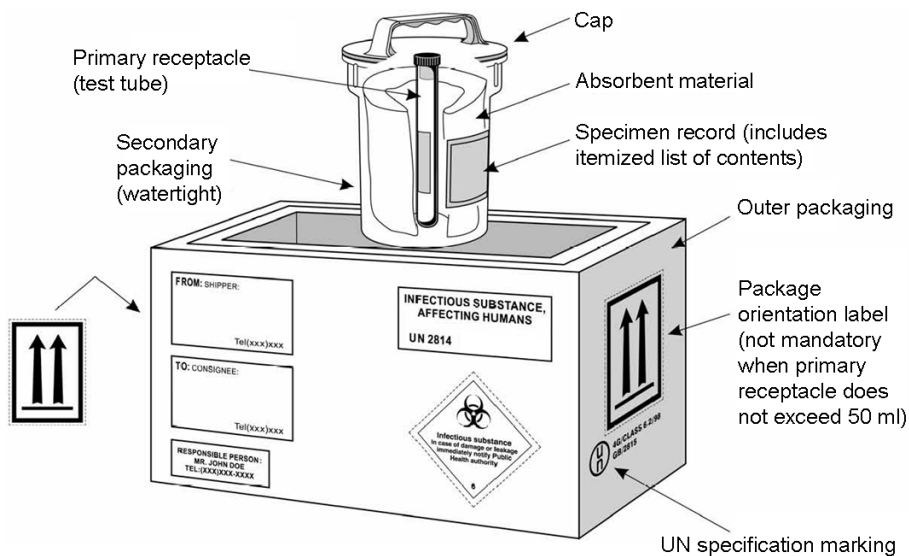
## **Exercise**

# **Differences between P620 and P650**

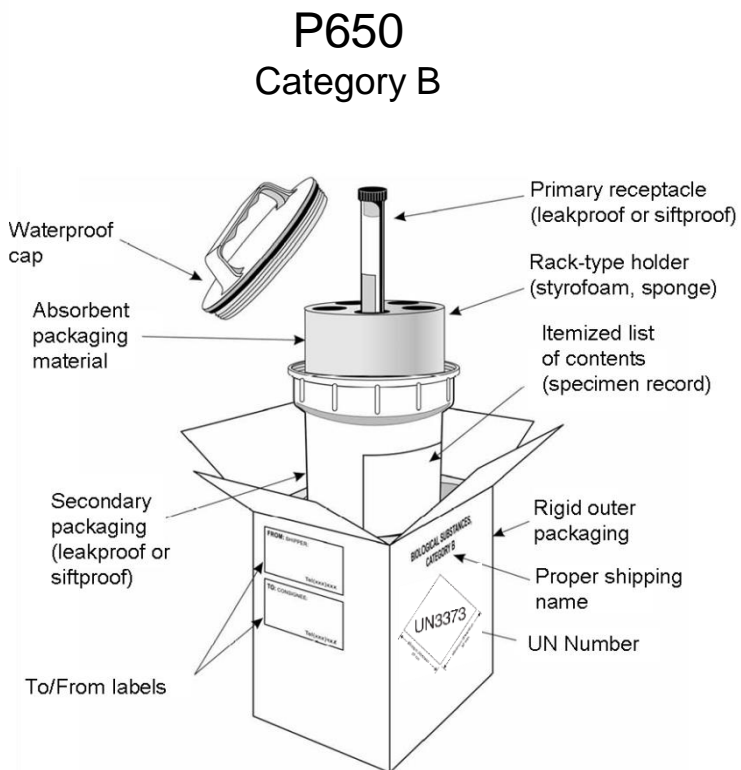


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## Exercise: Differences between P620 and P650



**P620**  
Category A



**P650**  
Category B



# Exercise: Differences between P620 and P650

Please identify three features found in P620 and in P650. Then compare the two packages and identify three differences between the two packages.

P620	P650	Differences



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## **Questions and comments**