The Carriage of Dangerous Goods and the Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations

**What are the ADR Dangerous Goods Driver Training Qualifications?**

These are the standards of training, assessment and certification for drivers of vehicles containing dangerous goods, based on the training requirements drawn up by the UK legislation and International agreements. They have been developed to make sure that they comply with the Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations (as amended) which apply the provisions of ADR European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road Council Directive (as amended).

They are necessary because UK law makes these requirements part of the dangerous goods industry responsibility — a regulatory requirement — to help keep the transportation of dangerous goods safe.

The key areas are:

* The drivers knowledge and skills necessary in their core operational duties.
* The practical application of specific health and safety techniques.
* The preventative and safety measures appropriate to the various types of hazards in Classes 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9.
* The specialist knowledge and skills necessary for drivers of vehicles carrying dangerous goods in packages and/or bulk.
* The specialist knowledge and skills necessary for drivers of vehicles carrying dangerous goods in fixed tanks or demountable tanks with a capacity exceeding 1m3, drivers of battery-vehicles with a total capacity exceeding 1m3 and drivers of vehicles carrying dangerous goods in tank containers, portable tanks or MEGCs with an individual capacity exceeding 3m3 on a transport Unit
* The specialist knowledge and skills necessary for drivers of vehicles carrying substances or articles of Class 1.
* The specialist knowledge and skills necessary for drivers of vehicles carrying radioactive material of Class 7.

Employers will look for the relevant qualifications when they are appointing new staff for the transportation of dangerous goods. They also expect their existing staff to have these qualifications.

Understanding and applying these skills in these key areas are important because they help you work effectively in your present job and also prepare you for jobs within the sector which you may do in future. Developing your knowledge of the dangerous goods legislation helps you deal with today’s rapidly changing world and improve your career prospects. That’s also why employers value them.

**Course Structure**

If you are an initial (or refresher candidate) you must start with the core unit followed by a mode\* (packages and/or tanker Unit) followed by at least one class (this can be either individual class papers or the common characteristics route).

\*Candidates who only require Class 1 and/or Class 7 are **not** required to sit a mode paper, however if they wish to add any of the other classes to their existing entitlement they are required to sit either or both of the mode papers.

All examinations must be sat on completion of your training course.

**Course Content**

All content detailed within the Learning Objective tables in each Unit must be taught. The content detailed in these tables must also be covered in centre’s training materials submitted to SQA for approval.

**Certification**

On completion of the required component parts of ADR training, a new photo card will be issued displaying your entitlement for the carriage of dangerous goods. This card will be valid for a period of five years from the date of issue. Please note that if you are adding on other options to your existing certificate your expiry date will not change.

Further information on the various routes to certification can be found in the Department for Transport and HSENI Manual of Practice.