(1) Fully or partially enclosed to constitute a compartment intended for containing goods;
(2) Of a permanent character and strong enough to be suitable for repeated use;
(3) Specifically designed to facilitate the carriage of goods by one or more modes of transport, without intermediate reloading;
(4) Designed for ready handling, particularly its transfer from one mode of transport to another;
(5) Designed to be easily filled and emptied; and
(6) Having an internal volume of 1 cubic meter (35.3 cubic feet) or more.

(d) Manufacturer. “Manufacturer” means an organization or person constructing containers or road vehicles for certification in accordance with this chapter.

(e) Prototype. “Prototype” means a sample unit of a series of identical containers or road vehicles all built, so far as practical, under the same conditions.

(f) Road vehicle. “Road Vehicle”, as defined in Chapter 1, Article 1 of the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods Under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention), November 14, 1975 (TIAS), means not only any power-driven road vehicle but also any trailer or semi-trailer designed to be coupled to it.

(g) Customs and TIR/Container Plan. “Customs and TIR/Container Plan” means the designer’s drawing of a vehicle (for TIR purposes) or container (for TIR and Container Convention purposes) that illustrates each requirement in §§115.30, 115.40, 115.51, or 15.65, as appropriate to this part.

(h) Definitions. The definitions in the subject Conventions shall be considered applicable to terms not specifically defined above.

§ 115.4 Conflicting provisions.

The provisions of the most recent TIR/Container Convention shall apply in the event of conflict between it and an earlier TIR/Container Convention covered by these regulations.

Subpart B—Administration

§ 115.6 Designated Certifying Authorities.

(a) Certifying Authorities for containers and road vehicles. The Commissioner has designated the following Certifying Authorities for containers and road vehicles as defined in this part:

1. The American Bureau of Shipping, ABS Plaza, 16855 Northchase Drive, Houston, Texas 77060–6008;
2. International Cargo Gear Bureau, Inc., 321 West 44th Street, New York, New York 10036;

(b) Certifying Authority for containers. The Commissioner has designated Lloyd’s Register North America, Inc., 1401 Enclave Parkway, Suite 200, Houston, Texas 77077, as a Certifying Authority only for containers as defined in this part.


§ 115.7 Designation of additional Certifying Authorities.

(a) The Commissioner may designate as a Certifying Authority any non-profit firm or association that he finds competent to carry out the functions of §§115.8 through 115.14 of this subpart.

(b) Any designation as Certifying Authority may be terminated by the Commissioner.

§ 115.8 Certifying Authorities responsibilities—road vehicles.

(a) General. Road vehicles may be approved individually or by design type.

(b) Individual approval. The Certifying Authority to whom a road vehicle is submitted for approval shall inspect such road vehicle produced in accordance with the general rules contained in Annex 3 of the TIR Convention, 1975.

(c) Design type approval. The Certifying Authority to whom a road vehicle is submitted for design type approval shall examine the drawings and detailed design specifications submitted with the application for approval. The Certifying Authority shall advise the applicant of any changes that must be made to the proposed design type in order that approval may