

**Safety of Life at Sea Convention (SOLAS)**  
**Verified Gross Mass (VGM)**  
*~ Frequently Asked Questions ~*

**Q. When is the effective date?**

On 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2016, the requirement will be effective.

**Q. Definition of Verified Gross Mass (VGM)?**

Verified gross mass means the total gross mass of a packed container as obtained by either Method 1 or Method 2 described below.

- Method 1 –The packed container is weighed after the end of the stuffing operation using calibrated and certified equipment.
- Method 2 – For some uniform or packaged cargo, the known weight of cargo packages/ pallets, etc. and securing material is added to the tare mass of the container.

**Q. Who decides on the certified method of weighing?**

This is the responsibility of the competent authority of the State in which packing of the container was completed.

**Q. Who provides the VGM?**

The shipper is responsible for providing the verified gross mass by stating it in the shipping document and submitting it to the master or his representative and to the terminal representative sufficiently in advance for use in the preparation of the ship stowage plan.

**Q. Who is the shipper?**

The shipper is defined as a legal entity or person named on the bill of lading or sea waybill or equivalent multimodal transport document (e.g. "through" bill of lading) as shipper and/or who (or in whose name or on whose behalf) a contract of carriage has been concluded with a shipping company. The shipper may be a manufacturer, ship agent, freight forwarder, etc.

**Q. Required information to "K" Line?**

Mandatory information to be provided by shippers are:

1. Booking Number or BL Number
2. Container Number
3. VGM Weight
4. VGM Authorizer Name
5. Unit of Measurement

**Q “K” Line’s Loading Policy?**

As carrier, “K” Line will not load any cargo without VGM on our vessels.

If terminal has “No VGM/No Gate-In” policy, then the cargo will not be allowed to enter the terminal gate. Even if it can enter the terminal gate, cargo will not be loaded onto a vessel without VGM in accordance with the basis of “No VGM/No Load.”

**Q. Who pays costs in case of non-compliance/no VGM?**

Any charges or fines related to shipper’s non-compliance with provision of the VGM or “K” Line’s submission requirements will be to the account of the shipper.

**Q. Treatment of Pre-1<sup>st</sup> July Transshipment cargo?**

For units received in the 1<sup>st</sup> IMO loading port prior to 1<sup>st</sup> July, but transshipping overseas after 1<sup>st</sup> July, shippers still need to provide “K” Line the VGM before VGM cutoffs.

However, implementation is subject to each transshipment country’s guidance. “K” Line will monitor progress of each country’s guidance and will adjust our position as guidelines becomes clear.



## Q. When is the VGM submission cutoff?

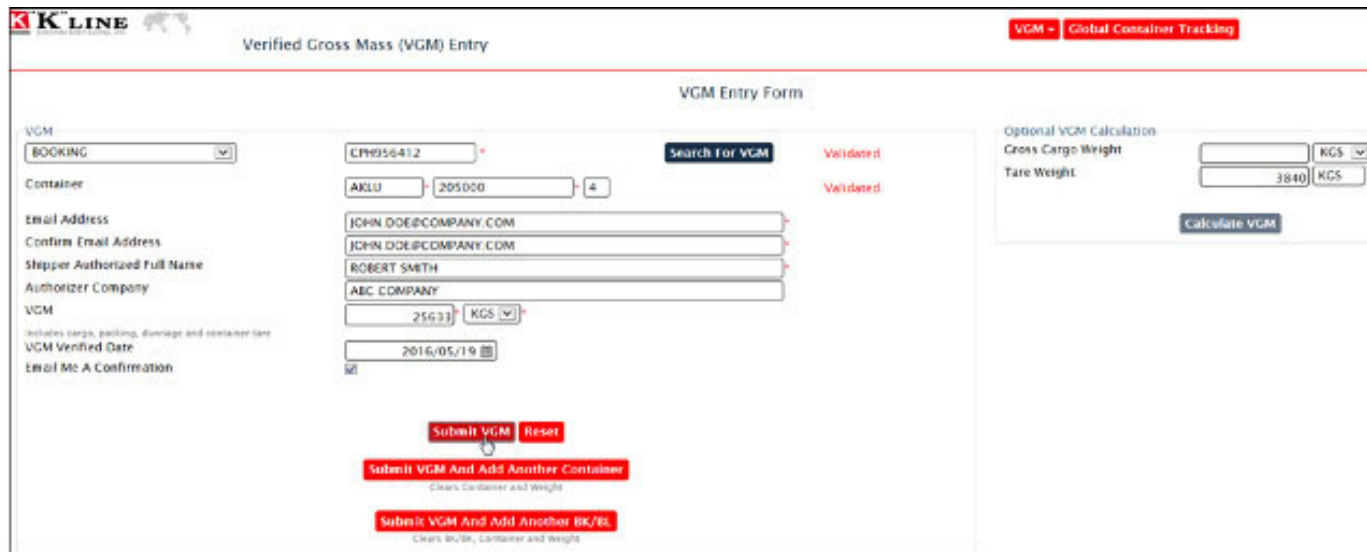
VGM cutoff timing will be differed from terminal-to-terminal as implementation rules are different in each country and terminal.

## Q. VGM submission methods/channel?

Below are preferable VGM methods for submission to “K” Line:

1. EDI
2. 3rd Party Portal (INTTRA, GT Nexus, Cargo Smart)
3. Web Entry (this option is subject to each country’s local availability)

<http://vgm.kline.com>



The screenshot shows the "Verified Gross Mass (VGM) Entry" form on the K Line website. The form is titled "VGM Entry Form" and includes a "Search for VGM" button. The form fields are as follows:

Field	Value	Status
BOOKING	CPH956412	Validated
Container	AKLU 205000 4	Validated
Email Address	JOHN.DOE@COMPANY.COM	
Confirm Email Address	JOHN.DOE@COMPANY.COM	
Shipper Authorized Full Name	ROBERT SMITH	
Authorizer Company	ABC COMPANY	
VGM	25633 KGS	
VGM Verified Date	2016/05/19	

Optional VGM Calculation fields:

Field	Value	Unit
Gross Cargo Weight		KGS
Tare Weight	3840	KGS

Buttons: Submit VGM, Reset, Submit VGM And Add Another Container, Submit VGM And Add Another BK/BL.

**Q. How to check Tare weight?**

1. On the container "CSC plate"
2. On line inquiry – Tare Lookup

<http://vgm.kline.com/#/tare>

Verified Gross Mass (VGM) Entry

Tare Lookup

Search

KLFU130065,KLFU1300642  
Enter Container number(s) separated by a comma.

Search Reset

Tare Search Results

Container	Tare Weight Kgs	Tare Weight Lbs
KLFU130065	3650	8047
KLFU1300642	3650	8047

1 - 2 of 2 items

3. As part of Global Container Tracking (this option is subject to each country's local availability)

<http://ecom.kline.com/tracking>

GLOBAL CONTAINER TRACKING

US2629549

Enter Ocean B/L, Booking or Container number(s) separated by a comma.  
 For more complete information, search using an Ocean B/L or Booking number.  
 Click for vessel details.

Search Reset Excel

Booking US2629549

Receipt Location/Type Perryville, MO, US / Door Cut Off

Load Port Elizabeth, NJ, US E.R. India 013

Last Discharge Port Le Havre, FR E.R. India 013

Delivery Location/Type Le Havre, FR / CY

AES Received Yes

01 KKLU769532-0 40' DRY 9'6" Tare: 6,300 KGS

Event	Date	Location
Arrived Full	25-Mar-2016 09:32	Elizabeth, NJ, US
Departed Full	25-Mar-2016 06:14	Middl Sc, NJ
Departed Full	25-Mar-2016 06:35	Bethvnte, PA
Arrived Full	25-Mar-2016 05:48	Bethvnte, PA
Departed Full	25-Mar-2016 05:36	Alth Sc, PA
Departed Full	25-Mar-2016 03:47	Annvt Sc, PA

**Q. VGM change?**

We will use the last VGM received prior to the VGM submission cutoff as the final/accurate VGM.

**Q. Can shipper weigh at the terminal?**

Depends on situation at each terminal.

*\* If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our local representative.*

➤ World Shipping Council

(WSC Guideline)

<http://www.worldshipping.org/industry-issues/safety/cargo-weight>

(WSC FAQs)

<http://www.worldshipping.org/industry-issues/safety/faqs/>

(Regional Implementation Information)

<http://www.worldshipping.org/industry-issues/safety/global-container-weight-verification-rule-effective-july-1-2016>



**K** Thank you