

1.	What changes have been made to Destin8 to accommodate VGM provision?	MCP have modified a number of export transactions and associated EDIFACT and Destin8 system messages to facilitate these legislative changes. For full details please either contact MCP directly (Tel: 01394-600205; email: help@destin8.co.uk) or if registered for Destin8, log in and access the information available on the News Page.
2.	Who will be charged if the Port provides a VGM?	By default charges will be invoiced to the Cargo Broker (usually shipping line). However there will be an option for the charges to be raised direct to a third party provided they have, if not already a Destin8 badge code holder, applied for and have been granted a 'VGM Exporter Badge' purely for VGM purposes and the 'Cargo Broker' has given permission for this to occur within Destin8 (see Q3).
3.	What do I need to do prior to a container arriving?	<p>In accordance with existing practices a pre-exec in respect of the container must exist within Destin8. If you wish the Port to provide the Verified Gross Mass (VGM) the pre-exec can include a request to do so or instruct us that a Shipper Verified Gross Mass (SVGM) will be provided later via the new VGM Transaction or in the VGM Order Reference field within the Destin8 COPARN, EBI ISL messages or the updated EBK/EBM transactions as outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Destin8 BADGE*PO_NUMBER denotes the BADGE party that will accept Terminal VGM charge(s) (must hold a valid Destin8 badge) - the Destin8 BADGE*PO_NUMBER*TL denotes a request to weigh and the BADGE party that will accept the Terminal VGM charge(s) - the Destin8 BADGE*PO_NUMBER*SL denotes a VGM will be provided by the cargo broker and the BADGE party that will accept the Terminal VGM charge(s) <p>If no VGM is provided and no 'TL' or 'SL' instruction exists prior to receipt of the container at the Port, the Port will treat this as an instruction to provide a Terminal Verified Gross Mass (TVGM) on behalf of the shipper. The pre-exec also enables a Verified Gross Mass (SVGM) to be declared as well as the Method (SM1 or SM2), Date/Time, Responsible Party and Authorised Person (see Q1 & Q2).</p>
4.	What will the Port charge for providing a VGM?	<p>The charges are as follows:</p> <p>SOLAS Terminal weigh (TVGM) fee including e-signature = £20.00 SOLAS administration fee = £1.00* SOLAS Exception fee = £20.00**</p> <p>*on all export laden containers to cover the costs of updating and maintaining our systems and associated calibration checks of container handling equipment so that they are able to record VGM's accurately.</p>

		<p>** The SOLAS Exception fee would be applied under the following circumstances:</p> <p>1) If a VGM was expected (i.e. a 'SL' instruction was given) but not provided 24 hours prior to vessel arrival*** (in which case both the SOLAS Exception fee and the TVGM fee would be charged) (see Q3 & Q5); or</p> <p>2) A material difference exists between the SVGM and the Terminal weight (in which case the SOLAS Exception fee would be charged but the TVGM fee would only be charged if the shipper elected to rely on the TVGM - see Q13).</p> <p><i>***If at any time a vessel's eta is within 24 hours, that eta shall be fixed as the vessel's eta for the purposes of the requirement to provide a VGM. If a vessel's actual eta changes after this time, this shall not extend the time by which a VGM must be provided.</i></p>
5.	Will my container be allowed onto the terminal without a VGM?	Yes, however the pre-exec for the container would have to include the 'SL' instruction otherwise the TVGM would be used (see Q3 & Q6).
6.	What happens to my container If the VGM has not been provided by the VGM cut-off time i.e. 24 hours prior to vessel arrival?	The VGM should be provided to the Port 24 hours prior to vessel arrival. If a VGM has not been provided by this time then for containers already received the Terminal VGM will be auto applied and charges associated (see Q4, Q5 & Q7).
7.	Will I still be able to deliver a container after the VGM cut off time (24 hours prior to vessel arrival)?	Yes. The container can be delivered up until the cargo cut off time (normally 6 hours prior to vessel arrival). If a SVGM has not been provided prior to the VGM cut-off (24 hours prior to vessel arrival) then a TVGM will be automatically applied upon arrival (see Q10, Q11).
8.	If the Port provides the VGM for a container how will we be notified of the VGM?	Once the VGM has been established the result will be sent back via EDIFACT, Inter System Link or text messages as selected in Destin8. For further information on Destin8 output messages and options, please contact the Destin8 Helpdesk on 01394 600205 or via email to help@destin8.co.uk. The shipper will be deemed to have appointed the Port as the person duly authorised to provide the VGM to the shipping line for the purposes of SOLAS.
9.	Will a hard copy ticket be provided if the Port provides a VGM?	No. There is no requirement under SOLAS that a paper 'weigh-ticket' or similar must be provided. The TVGM will be confirmed electronically via Destin8 and include the required e-signature.
10.	Will I be able to submit or amend a VGM via Destin8 after a container has been received at the Port?	Yes, updates to VGMs will be accepted up until 24hours prior to vessel arrival unless a TVGM has been applied at which time no further updates from Destin8 will be accepted (see Q3, Q6 & Q13).

11.	If we require the Port to provide a VGM post in-gate arrival can this be provided?	Yes, by changing the VGM Order Reference message within the pre-exec to a TL. To avoid a SOLAS late Exception fee this should be undertaken 24hours prior to vessel arrival (see Q3 & Q13).
12.	Are there any containers which the Port would not be able to provide a VGM for?	Yes. Given handling restrictions associated to class 1.1/1.2 and 1.3 hazardous goods any containers containing such goods will not be able to have a VGM provided by the Port. These containers require prior approval by the Port's Dangerous Goods Department and if approved are delivered direct to the vessel by the haulier. Therefore any containers containing such cargo will be required to have a VGM in existence before arriving at the terminal and would be managed in accordance with current Port procedures.
13.	If the Port finds a discrepancy between a SVGW and the terminal weight will you auto associate the terminal weight as a VGM and charge for such?	<p>No. If the Port finds a material difference (as per the prevailing MCA enforcement level and subject to change) between such then the Port will notify* the SOLAS Packed Container VGM party on the pre-exec via their respective Destin8 text or email output devices which will enable the shipper or shippers representative to either;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Request the Terminal weight to be provided as a VGM (see Q3 & Q11) and the container will be loaded to vessel, or; 2. The discrepancy will be notified prior to the Port's cargo cut off time (usually 6 hours prior to vessel arrival) to the Master or his representative (shipping line/agent) who will be asked to determine which weight should be used for ship planning purposes . If the Terminal weight is to be used then the pre-exec would have to be amended as per Q11.For the avoidance of doubt if the Master or his representative refuses to carry the container due to the discrepancy between the Terminal weight and the SVGW the container will not be shipped. <p>Either occurrence will incur an additional SOLAS Exception fee of £20. However a TVGM fee shall only be raised in the event the Terminal weight is used as the VGM.</p> <p><i>*To avoid potential short shipment, it is strongly recommended that all Destin8 VGM responsible parties have a specific Destin8 device configured for receiving discrepancy notifications from the port. These devices can be configured on request to the Destin8 Helpdesk via email to help@destin8.co.uk. Failure to do so would mean that such notifications would not be possible and by not doing so any discrepancy would have to be raised directly with the Master or his representative.</i></p>
14.	Who do we contact if we have any further questions?	Please send any questions to VGM@fdrc.co.uk