

# LTL Freight Classification: What is Changing in 2025

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National Motor Freight Traffic Association, Inc. (NMFTA)<sup>TM</sup>



- 🚛 Standards-setting organization;
- 🚛 Publishes the National Motor Freight Classification (NMFC®):
  - 🚛 Voluntary standard for the classification of commodities;
  - 🚛 Maintained by the Freight Classification Development Council (FCDC); and
  - 🚛 Updated three times a year.





# NMFC Overview

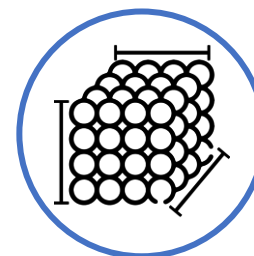
- 🚚 Voluntary standard for the classification of commodities;
- 🚚 Contains rules, procedures, and documents for LTL shipments;
- 🚚 Over 7,000 commodity descriptions:
  - 🚚 NMFC item number;
  - 🚚 Commodity description;
  - 🚚 Minimum packaging requirement; and
  - 🚚 Freight class.
- 🚚 Freight class is a representation of the commodity's transportability.
  - 🚚 Often necessary to obtain freight quote

# Objectives and Plan

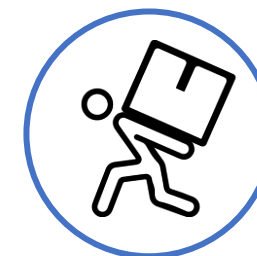
- 🚛 Modernize freight classification
  - 🚛 Enhance LTL freight classification user experience;
  - 🚛 Increase LTL freight classification accuracy on first try; and
  - 🚛 Reduce friction between carriers, shippers, and 3PLs.

# Simplifying Classification

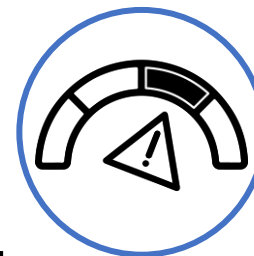
-  Continue evaluating commodities based on the four transportation characteristics and packaging;
-  Standardize evaluation of all commodities when density is the primary transportation characteristic;
-  Maintain separate listings for commodities with handling, stowability, and liability concerns; and
-  Remove legacy terms already embraced by four transportation characteristics of density, handling, stowability, and liability.



Density



Handling



Stowability



Liability

# Classification Reimagined

- 🚛 Starting on Docket 2025-1
  - 🚛 Expand FCDC 11-subprovision density progression to 13 subs;
  - 🚛 Move items with modified density breaks but NO handling, stowability, and liability issues to 13 subs;
  - 🚛 Move single class items with NO handling, stowability, and liability issues to 13 Subs;
  - 🚛 Move sub provision items with multiple classes and NO handling, stowability, and liability issues to 13 subs; and
  - 🚛 New symbol next to all NMFC items where handling, stowability, and liability issues are known.



# Full Density Scale Changes

## Current 11-Sub Scale

Less than 1.....	400
1 but less than 2.....	300
2 but less than 4.....	250
4 but less than 6.....	175
6 but less than 8.....	125
8 but less than 10.....	100
10 but less than 12.....	92.5
12 but less than 15.....	85
15 but less than 22.5.....	70
22.5 but less than 30.....	65
30 or greater.....	60

## Proposed 13-Sub Scale

Sub	Density Range	Class
1	Less than 1	400
2	1 but less than 2	300
3	2 but less than 4	250
4	4 but less than 6	175
5	6 but less than 8	125
6	8 but less than 10	100
7	10 but less than 12	92.5
8	12 but less than 15	85
9	15 but less than 22.5	70
10	22.5 but less than 30	65
11	30 but less than 35	60
12	35 but less than 50	55
13	50 or greater	50

Allows for heavy freight

# After 2025-1

- ④ Docket 2025-2 & beyond;
- ④ Assign 13-sub density progression when no handling, stowability, and liability characteristics are present; and
- ④ Continue process to identify commodities with known handling, stowability, and liability issues and assign classes based on unique characteristics.



# Current Classes Assigned By Density

Present Classification Provisions			
Item	Description	Class	
	<b>DENTAL, HOSPITAL, MEDICAL OR SURGICAL SUPPLY GROUP:</b> subject to item 56400		Single Class
	<b>Tests or Test Kits</b> , pregnancy or ovulation, in boxes.....	200	
	<b>Dental Cement, Plaster or Compounds</b> , in boxes, subject to Item 170 and having a density in pounds per cubic foot of:		Modified Density Break
Sub 1	Less than 10 .....	125	
Sub 2	10 but less than 15 .....	85	
Sub 3	15 but less than 30 .....	70	
Sub 4	30 or greater.....	55	
	<b>Dental, Hospital, Medical or Surgical Apparatus, Instruments, Machines or Supplies</b> , NOI, see Note, item 56591, in boxes, subject to Item 170 and having a density in pounds per cubic foot of:		Full Scale Density
Sub 1	Less than 1 .....	400	
Sub 2	1 but less than 2 .....	300	
Sub 3	2 but less than 4 .....	250	
Sub 4	4 but less than 6 .....	175	
Sub 5	6 but less than 8 .....	125	
Sub 6	8 but less than 10 .....	100	
Sub 7	10 but less than 12 .....	92.5	
Sub 8	12 but less than 15 .....	85	
Sub 9	15 but less than 22.5 .....	70	
Sub 10	22.5 but less than 30 .....	65	
Sub 11	30 or greater.....	60	

# Example of Proposed Changes for 2025-1



## Proposed Classification Provisions

Item	Description	Class
<b>DENTAL, HOSPITAL, MEDICAL OR SURGICAL SUPPLY GROUP:</b>		
<b>Dental, Hospital, Medical or Surgical Apparatus, Instruments, Machines or Supplies, viz.:</b>		
⇒ <b>Dental Cement, Plaster or Compounds</b> , in boxes;		
⇒ <b>Dental, Hospital, Medical or Surgical Apparatus, Instruments, Machines or Supplies</b> , NOI; in boxes		
⇒ <b>Tests or Test Kits</b> , pregnancy or ovulation, in boxes;		
Subject to Item 170 and having a density in pounds per cubic foot of:		
Sub 1	Less than 1 .....	400
Sub 2	1 but less than 2 .....	300
Sub 3	2 but less than 4 .....	250
Sub 4	4 but less than 6 .....	175
Sub 5	6 but less than 8 .....	125
Sub 6	8 but less than 10 .....	100
Sub 7	10 but less than 12 .....	92.5
Sub 8	12 but less than 15 .....	85
Sub 9	15 but less than 22.5 .....	70
Sub 10	22.5 but less than 30 .....	65
Sub 11	30 but less than 35 .....	60
Sub 12	35 but less than 50 .....	55
Sub 13	50 or greater.....	50

# Example of Proposed Changes for 2025-1

Consolidate Separate Listings into One Item

Retain Search Terms in Listing

Retain Minimum Packaging Requirements

13-Sub Density Scale

**Proposed Classification Provisions**

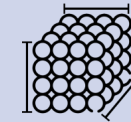
Item	Description	Class
	<b>DENTAL, HOSPITAL, MEDICAL OR SURGICAL SUPPLY GROUP: Dental, Hospital, Medical or Surgical Apparatus, Instruments, Machines or Supplies, viz.:</b>	
	⇒Dental Cement, Plaster or Compounds, in boxes;	
	⇒Dental, Hospital, Medical or Surgical Apparatus, Instruments, Machines or Supplies, <del>NOT</del> in boxes	
	⇒Tests or Test Kits, pregnancy or ovulation, in boxes;	
Subject to Item 170 and having a density in pounds per cubic foot of:		
Sub 1	Less than 1 .....	400
Sub 2	1 but less than 2 .....	300
Sub 3	2 but less than 4 .....	250
Sub 4	4 but less than 6 .....	175
Sub 5	6 but less than 8 .....	125
Sub 6	8 but less than 10 .....	100
Sub 7	10 but less than 12 .....	92.5
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Sub 10	22.5 but less than 30 .....	65
Sub 11	30 but less than 35 .....	60
Sub 12	35 but less than 50 .....	55
Sub 13	50 or greater.....	50

# How Freight Classes Are Assigned Today

## Factors Used to Determine Freight Classes in Current NMFC

Average Density	Modified Density Scale	Full Scale Density	Not Taken
Class 0	Material Construction	Weight	Packaging
United Inches	Greatest Dimension	Hazardous Materials	Cut to specified length
Enameled	Manufacturing stages of wood	Nested, or Nested Solid,	Forms of Shipment: SU, KD
		Actual Value	Released Value

## FCDC Policies Must Consider Four Transportation Characteristics



Density



Handling



Stowability



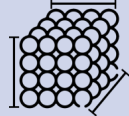



Liability

# Freight Classes Assignments: 2025-1 & Beyond

## Factors Used to Determine Freight Classes in Current NMFC

Average Density	Modified Density Scale	Full Scale Density	Not Taken 🖐️
Class 0 🖐️	Material Construction	Weight	Packaging 🖐️
United Inches 🖐️	Greatest Dimension 🖐️	Hazardous Materials 🖐️	Cut to specified length 🖐️
Enameled	Manufacturing stages of wood	Nested, or Nested Solid,	Forms of Shipment: SU, KD
		Actual Value	Released Value

## FCDC Policies Must Consider Four Transportation Characteristics

	Density
	Handling
	Stowability
	Liability



# Reduce Carrier, Shipper, and 3PL Friction

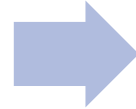
- ④ Standardized density scale for LTL freight with no handling, stowability, and liability issues;
- ④ Unique identifier for LTL freight with known handling, stowability, and liability Issues;
- ④ Condensed, generalized, and modernized commodity listings; and
- ④ Enhance usability of ClassIT<sup>®</sup>.



# Important Dates for Docket 2025-1

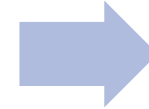
January 30, 2025

- Docket Released
- Open for Feedback



March 3, 2025

- FCDC Public Meeting



May 3, 2025

- Changes Become Effective

# How Changes Will Affect LTL Carriers

- ④ Simplify classification process;
- ④ One standard density scale when handling, stowability, and liability issues are not present;
- ④ More freight classes will be determined by actual shipment density;
- ④ Clearly identify commodities with unique handling, stowability, and liability issues; and

# How Changes Will Affect Shippers and 3PLs

- 🚚 Easier to identify NMFC items and freight classes;
- 🚚 Lower density classes added for heavier freight;
- 🚚 Freight with same density characteristics will have same freight class;
- 🚚 **NMFC item number, sub, and freight class may change;**
- 🚚 In most cases, handling unit dimensions and weight will be needed.

# How Carriers, Shippers, and 3PLs Can Prepare

- 🚛 Follow NMFTA website for important dates;
- 🚛 Contact NMFTA for proper NMFC information for LTL shipments;
  - 🚛 [store.nmfta.org/category/interpretations](https://store.nmfta.org/category/interpretations)
- 🚛 Start capturing handling unit dimensions and weight as tendered to carrier for shipment.

# How Will NMFTA Help Prepare

- ④ Host webinars to provide updates on Reimagination Process;
- ④ Continue to provide classification training;
- ④ Provide opinions on proper NMFC freight item and class; and
- ④ Enhance user experience of ClassIT.

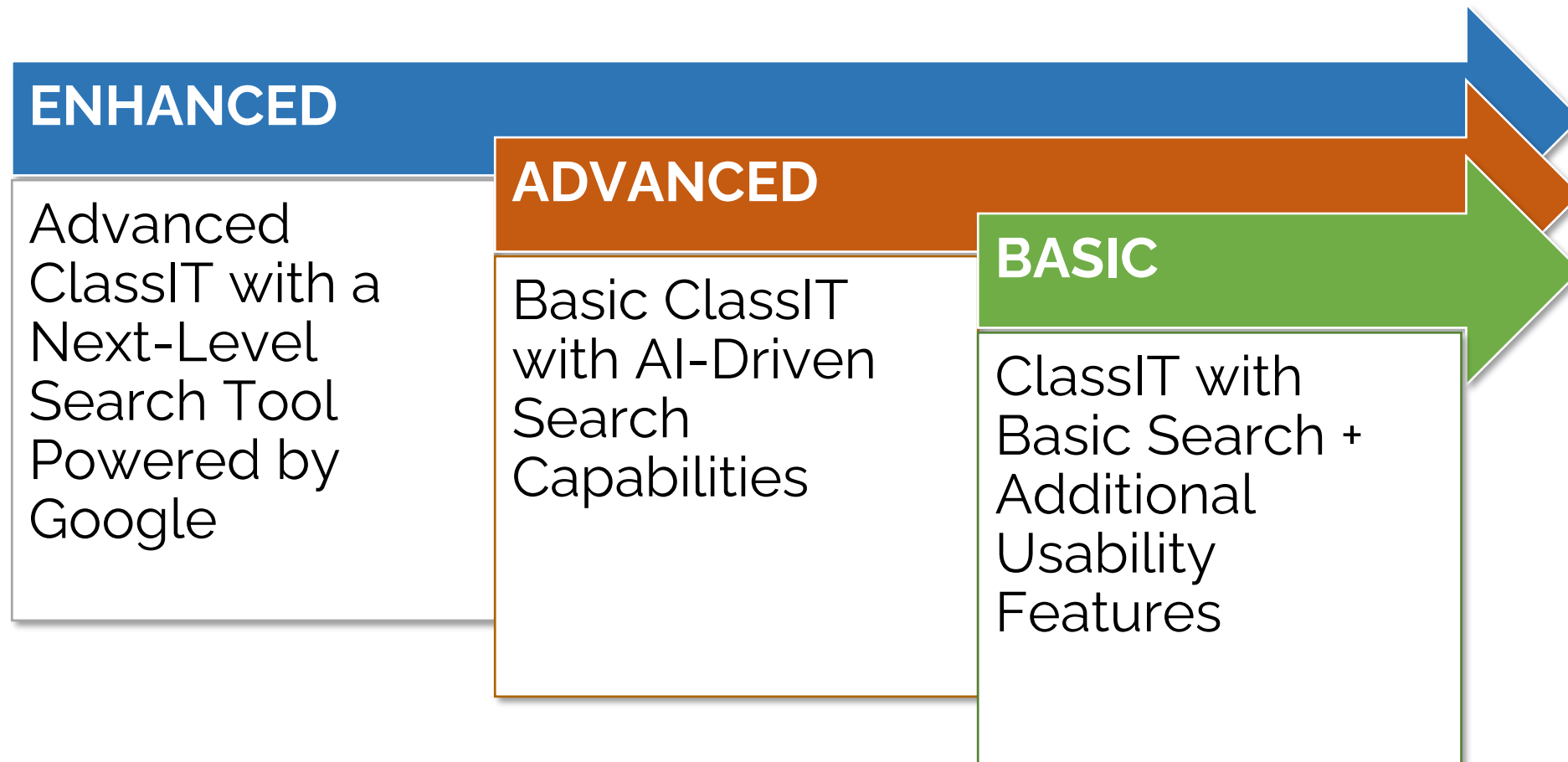
# ClassIT



# Modernizing ClassIT

- 🚛 Refactoring into an updated database
- 🚛 Enhanced Performance
- 🚛 Personalized Experience
  - 🚛 Personal or company wide favorites
- 🚛 Simplified Search
- 🚛 Notifications

# ClassIT Subscription Tiers



## ENHANCED

Advanced ClassIT with a Next-Level Search Tool Powered by Google

## ADVANCED

Basic ClassIT with AI-Driven Search Capabilities

## BASIC

ClassIT with Basic Search + Additional Usability Features

# Thank You For Attending

 For more information:

 [www.nmfta.org](http://www.nmfta.org)

 Comments, questions, and concerns to:

 [classification@nmfta.org](mailto:classification@nmfta.org)

# Q&A