

CN has transitioned across most of the network, from transporting dangerous goods (hazardous materials) with paper copies of shipping documents (shipping papers) to electronic shipping documents.

What is a shipping document?

This is a document which contains information on the dangerous goods that is being transported, such as the UN Number, Proper Shipping Name and Class of the dangerous good. Under the regulations governing the transport of dangerous goods, a train crew is required to have a paper copy of the shipping documents while they are in transport.

What is changing?

The Canadian and US governments have recognized that the transport of dangerous goods by rail with electronic shipping documents provides an equivalent level of safety as with paper copies, and railroads are being granted permission from both governments to transport dangerous goods with electronic shipping documents.

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What are electronic shipping documents?

An electronic shipping document contains all of the information required for transporting dangerous goods, but is now in electronic format.

I am on the scene at an incident involving a CN train. How do I get a copy of the train consist / shipping documents?

Locate the train crew. The crew (conductor and engineer) will have electronic devices containing a copy of the train consist and shipping documents which can be shared with you in the event of an incident (*Fig. 1*). The crew may share the information directly from their device to you, or may share via email or Bluetooth to your device.

Fig.1

On the inside of the first locomotive of a CN train you will see a decal with instructions on how to obtain electronic shipping documents (*Fig. 2*).

I cannot locate the train crew / I cannot approach the site of the incident due to safety concerns. How do I get a copy?

Contact the railroad at **1-800-465-9239**, **option 3**. The railroad will provide copies of the train consist and shipping documents to you or your dispatch center.

What other ways can I get information about the dangerous goods on a train?

The Askrail mobile application serves emergency responders who arrive first on scene at a rail emergency and need critical information about the contents of a railcar (*Fig. 3*). The app provides immediate access to accurate, real-time data about individual railcars on a train and dangerous goods information for all Class 1 railroads. You can download the Askrail app from Google Play or the Apple Store.



