



# PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Susan Nauman, ISDI  
Email: [snauman@industrialpackaging.org](mailto:snauman@industrialpackaging.org)

Contact: Paul Rankin, RIPA  
Email: [prankin@ripaus.com](mailto:prankin@ripaus.com)

## **Leading Trade Groups Release New Steel Drum Testing Guide**

**SEVERNA PARK, Md., and ROCKVILLE, Md.** – Two trade associations representing North American steel drum manufacturers, remanufacturers, reconditioners and distributors have collaborated to produce a steel drum testing guide. The newly released document will assist members of the Industrial Steel Drum Institute (ISDI) and the Reusable Industrial Packaging Association (RIPA) in conducting required U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) performance tests on steel drums.

The guide covers all aspects of steel drum performance testing, which is required to qualify packagings used to transport hazardous materials. The guide includes key information on testing and recordkeeping requirements. Although basic performance testing requirements are outlined in the U.S. Hazardous Materials Regulations and several ASTM standards, testing procedures can be vague and open to some interpretation due to a large number of variables. With the new guide, ISDI and RIPA aim to bring greater consistency and harmony to the testing environment and as a result, improve packaging safety.

Many members of both ISDI and RIPA perform design qualification and the required periodic requalification testing on their own packagings. The recently updated guide will help them train staff and standardize testing practices.

This guide was created to help testers understand testing procedures in general terms and is not intended to serve as a substitute for strict adherence to applicable regulatory procedures, as established by the DOT and based upon recommendations from the United Nations.

### ***About the Industrial Steel Drum Institute (ISDI)***

*ISDI, formerly known as the Steel Shipping Container Institute, represents the industry before federal agencies and the U.S. Congress, acts as liaison with other industry groups and individual corporations, and plays an active role with international organizations, including the U.N. Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. ISDI's mission is to promote the common interests of its members through government*

relations, technical research, education and information exchange, media relations, and generic marketing programs. For more information, visit <http://www.whysteeldrums.org>.

***About the Reusable Industrial Packaging Association (RIPA)***

*The Reusable Industrial Packaging Association represents reconditioners, manufacturers and distributors of reusable industrial packaging in North America. The association works with state and federal government agencies, as well as the U.S. Congress on issues affecting the industrial packaging business. RIPA is a founding member of the International Confederation of Container Reconditioners (ICCR), which represents the global reconditioning industry before international regulatory and standards-setting groups, including the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. For more information, visit <http://www.reusablepackaging.org>.*