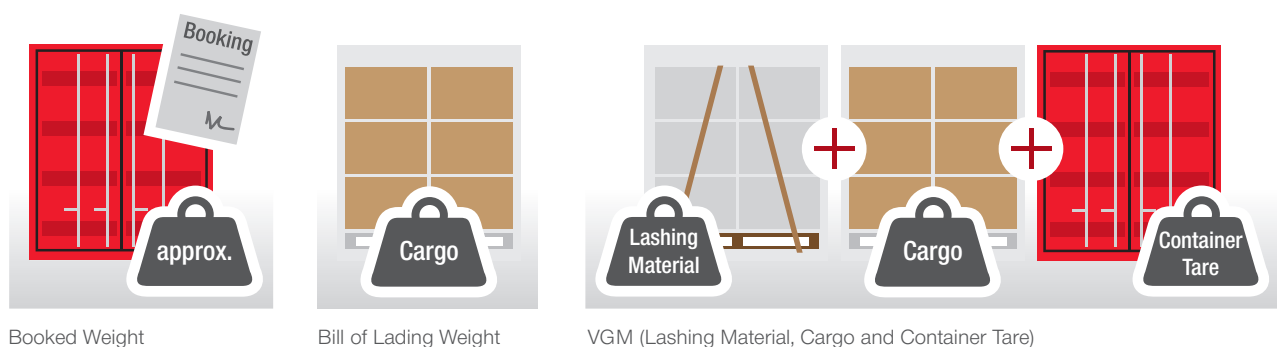# What is Verified Gross Mass (VGM)?

For general VGM information, please refer to the FAQs published on the website:
www.hamburgsud-line.com

Booked Weight vs. Bill of Lading Weight vs. VGM

VGM does not have the same meaning and should not be mixed up with the weight declared in the booking or with the weight declared on the bill of lading:

Booked Weight   Bill of Lading Weight   VGM (Lashing Material, Cargo and Container Tare)

VGM can be determined by 2 Methods. For further details please refer to the published FAQs.

How can you send us VGM information?

For all involved, submitting VGM to Hamburg Süd we offer the following channels:

1. VGM data via VERMAS EDI

One solution for an automated transmission of VGM information is the new EDIFACT message VERMAS. This standard message type released by the SMDG allows submitting the VGM data in a separate EDI message and uniform manner so that you will only have to set up and define the message once (ideally no adjustments required for different carriers).

*SMDG is a non-profit foundation developing and promoting UN/EDIFACT EDI-messages for the Maritime Industry recognised by the UN/EDIFACT Board. Please refer to www.smdg.org

Another advantage of VERMAS messages is that they can be submitted separately from Bookings (possibly too early) or Shipping Instructions (possibly too late) via EDI.

We are able to receive VERMAS messages via partner portals:

Mandatory information to be submitted:

- Booking number
- Container number
- Verified weight
- Unit of measurement
- Authorised person

Optional VERMAS-supported information:

- Weighing Date (strongly recommended)
- Shipper's internal reference
- Weighing method
- Ordering party
- Weighing facility
- Country of method 2
- Documentation holding party
- Authorizing party (shipper named on the carrier's bill of lading)

2. VGM data via our e-portal tool

Hamburg Süd will offer a simple and easy tool on the E-Portal supporting the manual input of VGM information (including the possibility of uploading *.csv files):

- Manual insertion of booking number
    - Pre-populated container numbers
    - Manual insertion of container numbers possible

- Copy function
    - Pre-populated container numbers: only weight has to be adjusted
    - Manual insertion of container numbers: only weight and container numbers have to be adjusted

- File upload (CSV)
    - Fill in the supplied template with VGM data for multiple bookings and submit it to us in one step

- Preview the data
    - Verify entries before submitting

- Extended options
    - Provide us with optional VGM information

3. VGM data via booking or shipping instructions

We will be able to receive VGM Data via partner portals supporting the following standard messages:

- Booking (EDIFACT IFTMBF, ANSI X12 300)
- Shipping instructions (EDIFACT IFTMIN, ANSI X12 304)

Tare Weight

Hamburg Süd publishes the container tare weight on its e-portal in order to support customer obtaining VGM as per Method 2. Inquiry can be executed on container or booking level.