

**SUBJECT 16**

**Re:** Pumps, suction or pressure, dental, hospital or medical — Item 56840

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**Proponent:** Freight Classification Development Council

**Present Classification Provisions**

Item	Description	Class
56680	<b>DENTAL, HOSPITAL OR MEDICAL SUPPLY GROUP:</b> subject to item 56400 <b>Dental, Medical or Surgical Instruments or Machines,</b> NOI, including <b>Clinical Thermometers,</b> see Note, item 56682, other than dental units, in boxes or in Package 2376.....	Not Involved
56682	NOTE—Not Involved.	
56840	<b>Pumps,</b> suction or pressure, with or without appliances for drainage or other treatment of body cavities, in boxes .....	100

**Proposed Classification Provisions**

Item	Description	Class
56680	<b>DENTAL, HOSPITAL OR MEDICAL SUPPLY GROUP:</b> subject to item 56400 <b>Dental, Medical or Surgical Instruments or Machines,</b> NOI, including <b>Clinical Thermometers,</b> see Note, item 56682, other than dental units, in boxes or ⇒Package 2376 .....	No Change
56682	NOTE—No Change.	
56840	<b>Pumps ⇒or Aspirators,</b> suction or pressure, ⇒including <b>Breast Pumps,</b> with or without appliances for drainage or other treatment of body cavities, ⇒see Note, item NEW, in boxes .....	⇒125
⇒NEW	NOTE—Does not apply on devices that attach to central dental, hospital or medical vacuum supply systems. For applicable provisions, see item 56680.	

**Analysis**

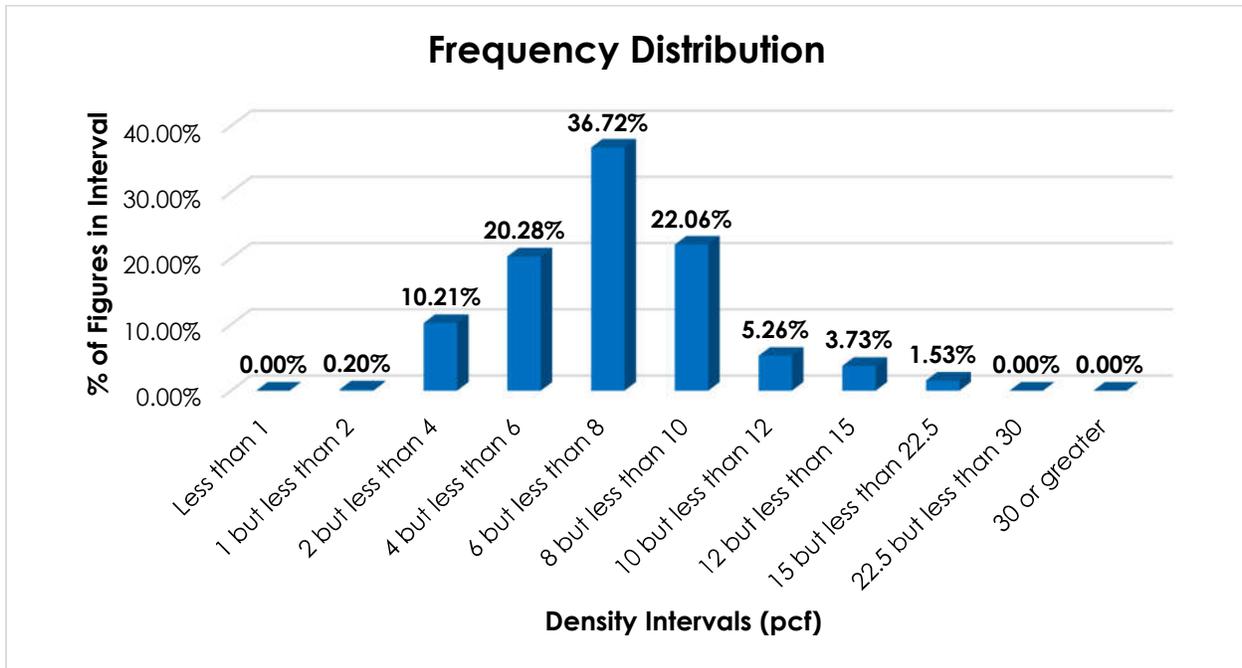
**Introduction**

This proposal is in response to indications that shipments of products moving under item 56840 exhibit transportation characteristics inconsistent with the currently assigned class and to address interpretative issues relating to devices that connect to central dental, hospital or medical vacuum systems.

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Transportation Characteristics

**Density**—The information of record includes 1,958 density observations obtained from the FCDC’s Density Study<sup>1</sup>. The densities range from 1.05 to 17.15 pcf, with an overall average density of 7.17 pcf. As shown in the graph below, the density distribution is essentially bell-shaped, with a roughly symmetrical distribution around the central peak, tapering off in both directions. The overall average is reflective of the unimodality of the distribution.



**Handling, Stowability and Liability**—There have been no reports of unusual or significant handling, stowability or liability concerns.

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing analysis, and in the interest of clarification, item 56840 would be amended to read, “Pumps or Aspirators, suction or pressure, including Breast Pumps, with or without appliances for drainage or other treatment of body cavities,” at class 125. A new attendant Note would be established clarifying that item 56840 does not apply on devices that attach to central dental, hospital or medical vacuum supply systems. The proposed new Note would direct the Classification user to item 56680.

<sup>1</sup> The Density Study is part of an ongoing effort by the FCDC to collect information on actual shipments across all product categories handled by the LTL industry. Carriers that choose to participate in the Study periodically submit shipment data captured through their respective freight auditing programs. The FCDC uses verifiable data points, identified by NMFC item, that include the weight and the dimensions and/or cube of the shipping unit.