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COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS AND ON THE GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (Twenty-fourth session, 1-10 December 2003, agenda item 9)

MISCELLANEOUS PROPOSALS OF AMENDMENTS TO THE MODEL REGULATIONS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Comments on ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2003/49 (United States of America)

<u>Transport of dangerous goods documentation requirements</u>

Reconsideration of technical name requirement for certain entries in the Dangerous Goods List

<u>Transmitted by the International Technical Committee for the prevention</u> and Extinction of Fire (CTIF)

CTIF wishes to react to the initiative taken by the expert from the United States of America to simplify the communication laid down in the transport documents with respect to the needs of information conveyed to emergency response personnel.

During the initial phase of a response to a hazardous materials incident, information is mainly retrieved via the UN-number. Responders are therefore familiar with the use of common family names.

However, if there is support for the proposal from the expert from the United States of America, responders would only find sufficient information for the first phase of an emergency response.

If during the course of an accident more specific information is required, special databanks are consulted and the retrieval of data via the technical name will result in more precise information than could be achieved via the more generic family name.

Thus CTIF would like to recommend that there is no change to the current requirements.