

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport
of Dangerous Goods

(Seventy sixth session,
Geneva, 3 -7 May 2004)

INTERPRETATION OF ADR

Instruction in writing

Transmitted by Italy

SUMMARY	
Executive Summary:	Solve the contradiction between subsections 5.4.3.1(a) and 5.4.3.7 regarding the instructions in writing for group of goods presenting the same dangers.
Action to be taken:	Modify subsection 5.4.3.1(a), and add the Classification Code in subsection 5.4.3.7 as a criterion to classify goods presenting the same dangers.
Related documents:	None

Introduction

In subsection 5.4.3.1 of ADR is pointed out that “.... *the driver shall be given instructions in writing, specifying concisely for each dangerous substance or article carried or for each group of goods presenting the same dangers to which the substance(s) or article(s) carried belong(s):*

(a) the name of the substance or article or group of goods, the Class and the UN number or for a group of goods the UN numbers of the goods for which these instructions are intended or are applicable;”

In subsection 5.4.3.7 of ADR is pointed out that “*in case of mixed loads of packaged goods including dangerous goods which belong to different groups of goods presenting the same dangers, the instructions in writing may be restricted to one instruction per Class of dangerous goods carried on board of the vehicle. In such case no name of goods, or UN number has to be mentioned in the instructions*”.

The use of plural form related to “UN numbers” in subsection 5.4.3.1(a) would let intend that using only one tremcard for different substances carried on the same vehicle, all their UN numbers should be indicated on the tremcard.

This is in evident partial contradiction with what is indicated in subsection 5.4.3.7.

Therefore the UN number and the proper shipping name, as pointed out in column 1 and 2 of Table A of ADR, shall be included only if the tremcard is related to a single substance or article or to a group of goods of the same Class but with different Classification Code.

Besides it is not clear what must be intended for “*goods presenting the same dangers*”. It is difficult to understand if they are goods belonging just to the same Class or goods belonging to the same Class but also identified e.g. by the same Classification Code. Making reference only to the same Class could not be sufficient if the Class includes heterogeneous categories of products (e.g. “Environmentally hazardous substances” and “Elevated temperature substances” are both in Class 9).

Proposal

In subsection 5.4.3.1(a):

- replace in the subsection: “*the name of the substance...*” by “*the proper shipping name of the substance...*”;
- add, at the end of the subsection, the phrase: “*other than groups of goods under 5.4.3.7*”.

In subsection 5.4.3.7:

- replace “*.....one instruction per Class of dangerous goods carried on board of the vehicle.*”, by “*..... one instruction for dangerous goods carried on board of the vehicle, belonging to the same Class and to the same Classification Code.*”.

Justification

There is a contradiction between subsections 5.4.3.1(a) and 5.4.3.7 about the indication of the name and UN number in the transport of mixed loads of packaged goods. There is also a problem of misunderstanding of what are “goods presenting the same dangers” if it is not specified also the Classification Code.

Safety implications

None.

Feasibility

The proposal will not lead to problems.

Enforceability

No problem.
