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

Thirty-third session Geneva, 30 June-9 July 2008 Item 3 of the provisional agenda

PERFORMANCE OF PACKAGINGS, INCLUDING IBCS

Re Bottling/ Cross Bottling of Composite IBCs"

Transmitted by the International Confederation of IBC Associations (ICIBCA)

ICIBCA represents manufacturers of all types of IBCs including all metal, all plastic and Composites. Our members manufacture a significant percentage of the total units produced internationally and some members also collect, repair, and remanufacture these packagings in an environmentally responsible manner.

Our comments in this paper will be very brief as we see no reason to repeat the comments already brought to the Committees attention in earlier INF papers such as 33 INF 60 from ICCR. The following comments were sent to the Chairman of the Correspondence Work Group, Mr. Hart, on June 3rd.

(A) Repaired IBCs

We support the change from "original manufacturer's specification" to "original design type", however we do not support the added words , "from the same manufacturer". We agree with the earlier memorandum to you (sic Mr. Hart) from Andy Altemos and we quote " It seems to me that the important consideration is that the replacement inner receptacle be of the same design type as the original – not by whom it is manufactured"

We also share the legal concerns as expressed by the Expert from Germany as follows, "this shouldn't be a Requirement in safety provisions as it wouldn't be neutral to competition.". In this latter regard ICIBCA feels that such a statement (from the same manufacturer) would place limits on the marketplace and as such would expose Competent Authority to restraint of trade legal problems in their areas.