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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 Globally  
Harmonized System of Classification  
and Labelling of Chemicals

Sixteenth session, 10 - 12 December 2008  
Item 2(b) of the provisional agenda

### UPDATING OF THE SECOND REVISED EDITION OF THE GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS (GHS)

#### Health hazards

Proposal for amendment of Table 3.4.3 in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2008/18:  
“Cut-off values concentration limits of ingredients of a mixture classified as either skin  
sensitizers or respiratory sensitizers that would trigger classification of the mixture”

Transmitted by the expert from Australia

#### **Introduction**

1. Australia supports the principles detailed in ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2008/18 and believes that Table 3.4.3 of the GHS could be improved by providing further clarification that for skin sensitization and respiratory sensitization mixtures can be sub-categorized within a Category 1 classification into Sub-Category 1A or Sub-Category 1B where the data allows for such.
2. The aim of this informal paper is to provide greater clarity in classification requirements of mixtures for skin or respiratory sensitization, through editorial clarifications to Chapter 3.4, Table 3.4.3.

#### **Background**

3. At the fifteenth session of the UNSCEGHS, a proposal was submitted by the OECD (UN/SCEGHS/15/INF.13) for two new sub-categories 1A and 1B for respiratory sensitization and two sub-categories 1A and 1B for skin sensitization. New sections 3.4.2.1.1 (for respiratory sensitization) and 3.4.2.2.1 (for skin sensitization) described these sub-categories.
4. ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2008/18 reproduces the proposal for amendment to Chapter 3.4 of the GHS, initially submitted by the OECD as information document UN/SCEGHS/15/INF.13, and provisionally adopted by the Sub-Committee (with some editorial changes), at its fifteenth session.

**Proposal**

5. To provide further clarification that a mixture can be classified in Sub-category 1A or 1B for respiratory or skin sensitization, delete the following text (shown in strike-through), and insert the following text (changes shaded in grey), in Table 3.4.3 .

**Table 3.4.3: Cut-off values/concentration limits of ingredients of a mixture classified as either skin sensitizers or respiratory sensitizers that would trigger classification of the mixture**

Ingredient classified as:	Cut-off values/concentration limits triggering classification of a mixture as:		
	Skin sensitizer <b>Category 1</b>	Respiratory sensitizer <b>Category 1</b>	
	All physical states	Solid/Liquid	Gas
<b>Skin sensitizer Category 1</b>	<b>Category 1</b> ≥ 0.1% (Note 1)		
	≥ 1.0%		
<b>Skin sensitizer Sub-category 1A</b>	<b>Category 1A</b> ≥ 0.1%		
<b>Skin sensitizer Sub-category 1B</b>	<b>Category 1B</b> ≥ 1.0%		
<b>Respiratory sensitizer Category 1</b>		<b>Category 1</b> ≥ 0.1% (Note 1)	<b>Category 1</b> ≥ 0.1% (Note 1)
		≥ 1.0%	≥ 0.2%
<b>Respiratory sensitizer Category 1A</b>		<b>Category 1A</b> ≥ 0.1%	<b>Category 1A</b> ≥ 0.1%
<b>Respiratory sensitizer Category 1B</b>		<b>Category 1B</b> ≥ 1.0%	<b>Category 1B</b> ≥ 0.2%

**NOTE 1:** Some competent authorities may require SDS and/or supplemental labelling only, as described in 3.4.4.2 for mixtures containing a sensitizing ingredient as a concentration between 0.1 and 1% (or between 0.1 and 0.2% for a gaseous respiratory sensitizer). While the current cut-off values reflect existing systems, all recognize that special cases may require information be conveyed below that level.

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