

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Geneva, 15-19 September 2008

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

STANDARDS

Comments of Belgium to document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2008/16 and INF. 11

In INF. 11, the European Plastic Converters (EuPC) supports the proposal to refer to EN 15507 “Packaging – Transport Packaging for Dangerous Goods – Comparative Material Testing of Polyethylene Grades” in 6.1.5.2.5 and 6.5.6.3.4.

Apart from the fact that document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2008/16 does not propose the introduction of this reference (the standard has not been agreed upon yet), Belgium would like to draw the attention of the Joint Meeting to the controversial character of prEN 15507.

In the working group that discussed this standard for over 8 years, it has never been demonstrated that :

- the test procedure guarantees identical results when it is repeated with the same substances ;
- the test procedure guarantees identical results for the same substances in different laboratories.

Moreover, over the last two years, the Belgian test laboratory for packagings BVI-IBE has tested a number of materials that were deemed to be equivalent according to prEN 15507, using the tests with standard liquids for verifying the chemical compatibility. In more than 60 % of the cases, these tests showed diverging results.
