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-sixth session Geneva, 30 November – 9 December 2009 Item 3 of the provisional agenda

LISTING, CLASSIFICATION AND PACKING

Materials compatibility requirements for gases in pressure receptacles

Transmitted by the European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA)

Introduction

1. The expert from the United Kingdom has transmitted document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2009/30 regarding material compatibility requirements for gases in pressure receptacles.

2. EIGA is in support of the document, except that there are concerns about point 10, where it is proposed to amend the Model Regulations on the basis of a draft ISO standard.

3. Specifically, a number of gases are identified as not being compatible for filling into aluminium alloy pressure receptacles because of concerns of compatibility within ISO/DIS 11114-1:2009, Transportable gas cylinders -- Compatibility of cylinder and valve materials with gas contents -- Part 1: Metallic materials but not subject to restriction in the current edition of the Model Regulations.

4. EIGA wishes to advise the Committee of Experts that DIS/ISO 11114-1 is still under review and that until the standard is published as an ISO standard the list of gases restricted to be filled into aluminium alloy cylinders should not be amended to include UN 1911 Diborane, UN 2189 Dichlorosilane, UN 2418 Sulphur Tetrfluoride.

Proposal

5. EIGA proposes that the following gases are not restricted for filling into aluminium alloy pressure receptacles until DIS/ISO 11114-1 2009 is published and the position of them clarified: UN 1911 Diborane, UN 2189 Dichlorosilane and UN 2418 Sulphur Tetrfluoride.

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Justification

6. The justification is that there is still a technical review under way of the standard and to include these gases prior to the publication of the standard, especially when it is possible that may be considered to be compatible would lead to confusion. In particular of the three gases, UN 1911 Diborane is considered to have been included by mistake.