

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

22 November 2011

Fortieth session

Geneva, 28 November – 7 December 2011

Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda

Miscellaneous proposals of amendments to the Model Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: packagings

Test samples for the vibration test of IBCs

Transmitted by International Confederation of Plastics Packaging Manufacturers (ICPP)

Introduction

1. ICPP refers to the issue ‘Test samples for the vibration test of IBCs’ as in paper ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2011/23, transmitted by the secretariat. The issue was discussed based on informal document 17, sent by EuPC European Plastics Converters to the autumn session of the Joint Meeting 2010. With the present informal document the European manufacturers of composite IBCs and plastic IBCs in ICPP intend to inform the UN Sub-Committee about planned activities.

Information about activities of the European IBC manufacturing industry

2. In order to provide a scientific basis for the discussion whether a preliminary storage (with 1000 l test substance per test sample) is required the European IBC manufacturers agreed to run round robin tests to investigate the impact of preliminary storage on the result of vibration tests. The test procedure will be designed in a way to find out whether the vibration test is an appropriate test to identify failure of the plastics inner receptacle caused by lack of chemical compatibility. These tests include preliminary storage for 6 months with several test samples. The results will be available probably in autumn 2012 and can be presented on the December meeting in 2012.

Proposal

3. ICPP would appreciate to have an information exchange about the applied procedures in different countries on the upcoming December meeting. It proposes to discuss details of the issue ‘Test samples for the vibration test of IBCs’ in the light of the test results of the above-mentioned round robin test on the December meeting in 2012.

