

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
Bern, 18–22 March 2013
Item 6 of the provisional agenda
Reports of informal working groups

25 February 2013

BLEVE working group

Transmitted by the Governments of Germany and France

Introduction

1. At its session held in Geneva from 13–23 September 2011 the Joint Meeting decided to interrupt the meeting of the BLEVE working group until results from a testing program would be available
2. This is stated in the report, document TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/124 paragraphs:

“107. The Joint Meeting took note of the outcome of the work done by the informal working group at its ninth session, held in Oslo from 8 to 10 June 2011.

108. It noted in particular that further work would depend on the development by Germany of a testing program including the following items:

 - (a) A definition of the test conditions for a representative pool fire;*
 - (b) A description of the criteria for the selection of coatings to be tested;*
 - (c) A description of the criteria for the selection of the safety valves to be selected, including evaluation of negative effects on such valves (e.g., radiant heat);*
 - (d) An evaluation of the tests already performed by the BAM and TNO testing laboratories and of tests described in the literature, which left a list of questions unanswered;*
 - (e) A list of tests to be performed to address such questions.”*

And:

“110. A new date for a meeting could be set when more was clear about the testing program.”
3. In a joint effort Germany and France have financed a testing program to assess the efficiency of thermal coating and safety valves in a fire engulfment under different conditions.
4. The testing took place during year 2012 at BAM and has now been finalized.

Proposal

5. As stated in paragraph 110 of the above mentioned report, because the tests results are know available we think it is time to reconvene a session of the working group
6. The main agenda item would be related to a presentation of the test program and its results, and discussion of its consequences on future work.
7. For practical reasons the best location for this meeting would be Berlin at the BAM facilities where all the technical experts could be present.
8. This document mainly aims at giving an advance notice about the next meeting of the BLEVE working group in order for the interested experts to prepare for this event. It is not intended to discuss such a complex technical subject at this meeting. Enough time will be available for that during the working group meeting itself
9. The meeting would take place at the:

Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing (BAM)

**Unter den Eichen 44-46
D-12200 Berlin
Germany**

Haus 89 Nord Raum 120

It will start Monday 15 April 2013 at 1pm. and end Wednesday 17th at 1 pm

10. The Joint Meeting may wish to add other relevant points to the agenda.
11. A complete agenda as well as relevant additional information will then be sent in due time.
