

Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

17 June 2015

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Forty-seventh session

Geneva, 22 – 26 June 2015

Item 10 (b) of the provisional agenda

**Issues relating to the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals:
tests and criteria for oxidizing liquids and solids**

Round Robin testing programme – Test O.2: Test for oxidizing liquids and Test O.3: Test for oxidizing solids Step 1: “Test O.2: Test for oxidizing liquids”

Additional information to document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2015/6

Transmitted by the expert from France

Introduction

1. The purpose of this information document is to provide the sub-committee with additional updated information in support of the document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2015/6 on the progress in the step 1 of the Round Robin testing programme.

Report on progress

2. Following the invitation sent by INERIS (Institut National de l'Environnement Industriel et des Risques), France, in September 2014, eleven laboratories from seven countries have confirmed their willingness to participate in this RRT Programme. Nine of the laboratories from five countries are involved in step 1 of the RRT Programme.

3. As leading laboratory for the RRT INERIS selected three cellulose candidates as replacement cellulose in Test O.2 and shipped together with the final approved RRT programme for Test O.2 (step 1) in February 2015. The names and grades of the reference substances and sample of oxidizing liquids were defined in the programme but were not delivered by INERIS.

4. The participants were free to start their testing as soon as they could after receiving the cellulose samples. The results from the different laboratories were received from end of April to mid of June 2015 and a large majority of laboratories have now sent their results for this step to INERIS.
5. At this stage no full results are available. However, the following trends can be observed:
 - (i) No major issue for the classification were reported in using any of the three celluloses,
 - (ii) From the three cellulose candidates, two exhibit similar results,
 - (iii) There may be some adjustments required regarding the times taken as references for classification when comparing the times obtained with the replacement cellulose and with the Whatman CF11 cellulose - to be replaced - for the reference substances,
 - (iv) Besides of test results, long-term availability for the final choice of replacement cellulose will need to be taken into account.

Next steps

6. Conclusions and recommendations from the UN Test O.2 testing programme will be drawn to identify the best replacement cellulose from the three candidates in July 2015.
 7. A RRT programme for Test O.3 (step 2) will be circulated among the participants during July 2015 for comments. The final version will be distributed to them early September 2015. It is to be noted that two other laboratories have expressed their willingness to join the pool, which will be of 13 labs from 9 countries for step 2.
 8. A joint working document will be prepared for the 48th session of the TDG Sub-Committee and for the 30th session of the GHS Sub-Committee to report on progress in the RRT Programme.
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