



**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****Fifty-fourth session**

Geneva, 26 November-4 December 2018

Item 2 (f) of the provisional agenda

**Recommendations made by the Sub-Committee on its fifty-first,
fifty-second and fifty-third sessions and pending issues:
miscellaneous pending issues****Portable tanks with expired inspection dates and those
switched from general cargo to dangerous goods content****Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom*****Introduction**

1. At the fifty-third session of the Sub-Committee, the expert from the United Kingdom submitted informal document INF.15 which asked the Sub-Committee to consider and discuss if the Model Regulations should specify the conditions under which portable tanks can continue to be used for the transport of dangerous goods when they have missed the date for their periodic inspection or are switching from general cargo to dangerous goods. The United Kingdom expert believed that this is not addressed in the Model Regulations currently and that the lack of specific text dealing with this issue was leading to confusion amongst inspection bodies and users.

2. The official report from the last session recorded the discussion as presented in paragraphs 125-126 (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/107) reproduced here:

“125. Several experts noted that in their view, portable tanks used for general cargo should be subject to the 5-year inspection and test in accordance with Chapter 6.7 before being put in service for transport of dangerous goods. Others pointed out that they have had no time to consider this issue before the session.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2017–2018 approved by the Committee at its eighth session (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/100, paragraph 98 and ST/SG/AC.10/44, paragraph 14).

126. The Sub-Committee invited the expert from the United Kingdom to take account of the comments made and to submit an official document for the next session.”

3. As there was some support for addressing this issue within the Model Regulations and in response to the discussions of the last session, the expert from the United Kingdom proposes the following text for inclusion into Chapter 6.7 of the Model Regulations.

Proposal

4. Amend subsection 6.7.2.19.6 by adding a new sub-section as follows (new text underlined):

“6.7.2.19.6 A portable tank may not be filled and offered for transport after the date of expiry of the last 5 year or 2.5 year periodic inspection and test as required by 6.7.2.19.2. However, a portable tank filled prior to the date of expiry of the last periodic inspection and test may be carried for a period not to exceed three months beyond the date of expiry of the last periodic test or inspection. In addition, a portable tank may be transported after the date of expiry of the last periodic test and inspection:

(a) After emptying but before cleaning, for purposes of performing the next required test or inspection prior to refilling; and

(b) Unless otherwise approved by the competent authority, for a period not to exceed six months beyond the date of expiry of the last periodic test or inspection, in order to allow the return of dangerous goods for proper disposal or recycling. Reference to this exemption shall be mentioned in the transport document.

6.7.2.19.6.1 Except as provided for in 6.7.2.19.6 portable tanks which have missed the timeframe for their scheduled 5 year or 2.5 year periodic inspection and test may only be filled and offered for transport if a new 5 year periodic inspection and test is performed according to 6.7.2.19.4 and thereafter continuing in service in accordance with the provisions of 6.7.2.19.2.”

Justification

5. The addition of a new provision to deal with the above issue will address a gap in the existing text and will provide a uniform approach to how portable tanks which are out of test are handled.
