

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

28 June 2018

Fifty-third session

Geneva, 25 June-4 July 2018

Item 4 (c) of the provisional agenda

Electric storage systems:

transport provisions

Harmonization of the proper shipping names of UN Nos. 3481 and 3091

Transmitted by the European Association for Advanced Rechargeable
Batteries (RECHARGE) and the Rechargeable Battery Association
(PRBA)

Introduction

1. Following the introduction of document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2017/39 at the fifty-third session, the committee generally supported the intend of the proposal, but clarification and improved draft text was required.
2. Concerning the need to clarify what are the changes in the packaging instruction, it has been identified that specific parts of the existing paragraphs (3) and (4) of P903 were applicable in this case. Therefore, for clarity reasons, it is proposed to describe in a paragraph (5) all the applicable requirements, referring to the comments made during the discussion.
3. The text of the new special provision, as proposed in the Working Doc. 39, has been amended following the comments.
4. In relation to the introduction of a new special provision, it is proposed to add the new reference in the Dangerous Goods list, para 3.2. for the UN numbers 3091 and 3481.
5. The following proposal is submitted to the sub-committee:

Proposal

6. It is proposed to add a new subparagraph in the packing instruction P903 as follows:
“(5) For packaging containing both cells or batteries packed with equipment and contained in equipment:
For cells and batteries, packagings that completely enclose the cells or batteries, then placed with equipment in a packaging conforming to the requirements in paragraph (1) of this packing instruction; or
Packagings conforming to the requirements in paragraph (1) of this packing instruction, then placed with the equipment in a strong outer packaging constructed of suitable material, and of adequate strength and design in relation to the packaging capacity and its intended use. They shall be constructed in such a manner as to prevent accidental operation during transport. Packaging need not to meet the requirements of 4.1.1.3.

The equipment shall be secured against movement within the outer packaging.

Devices such as radio frequency identification (RFID) tags, watches and temperature loggers, which are not capable of generating a dangerous evolution of heat, may be transported when intentionally active in strong outer packagings. When active, these devices shall meet defined standards for electromagnetic radiation to ensure that the operation of the devices does not interfere with aircraft systems.

7. Insert a new special provision “XXX” in Chapter 3.3 as follows:

“XXX When a package contains a combination of lithium batteries contained in equipment and lithium batteries packed with equipment, the following requirements apply:

(a) the package shall be marked UN 3091 Lithium metal batteries packed with equipment, or UN 3481 Lithium ion batteries packed with equipment, as appropriate. If a package contains both lithium ion batteries and lithium metal batteries packed with and contained in equipment, the package shall be marked as required for both battery types. However, button cell batteries installed in equipment (including circuit boards) need not be considered.

(b) the transport document shall indicate UN 3091 Lithium metal batteries packed with equipment or UN 3481 Lithium ion batteries packed with equipment, as appropriate. If a package contains both lithium metal batteries and lithium ion batteries packed with and contained in equipment, then the transport document shall indicate both UN 3091 Lithium metal batteries packed with equipment and UN 3481 Lithium ion batteries packed with equipment.”

8. Insert the reference to the new special provision “XXX” in the Dangerous Goods List, para 3.2, for the UN numbers 3091 and 3481.
