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**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

Twenty-seventh session, 4-8 July 2005  
Item 4(a) of the provisional agenda

**PACKAGINGS (INCLUDING IBCS AND LARGE PACKAGINGS)**

Packaging performance

Drop test and righting test for IBCs

Transmitted by the expert from Argentina

**A. Modification of the criterion for passing the drop test applied to flexible IBCs**

1. Introduction

- (a) The 13th revised edition of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations, in its paragraph 6.5.4.9.5 “Criterion for passing the test” corresponding to the IBC drop test, establishes for flexible IBCs a criterion of no loss of content, adding that a slight discharge, such as that from closures or stitch holes, upon impact shall not be considered to be a failure of the IBCs provided that no further leakage occurs after the IBC has been raised clear of the ground.
- (b) Nevertheless, it does not require a condition to be met regarding the safety of the packaging as a whole unit, as in the case of Chapter 6.1 “Provisions for the construction and testing of packagings” where paragraphs 6.1.5.3.5.3 and 6.1.5.3.5.4, establish conditions in relation to damages liable to affect safety during transport.

2. Proposal

It is proposed to amend paragraph 6.5.4.9.5 “Criterion for passing the test” corresponding to the IBC drop test, by adding a new sentence as follows:

“The IBC shall not exhibit any damage liable to affect safety during transport”.

**B. Modification of the testing provisions for the IBC righting test**

1. Introduction

- (a) The 13th revised edition of the Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations, in its paragraph 6.5.4.12.3 “Method of testing” corresponding to the IBC righting test, establishes that after lying the IBC on its side, it shall be lifted at a speed of 0.1m/s to an upright position, clear of the floor, by one lifting device or by two lifting devices when four IBCs are provided, but it does not specify the lifting devices to be used in the previous operation, those next to the floor or those that are further from it, taking into account the IBC position after placing it on its side;
- (b) Considering that structural efforts involved during the lifting of the flexible IBC depend on the relative position in which the lifting devices are tested, it is important to analyze the different possibilities in which the IBC may be lifted as soon as it is placed on its side.

2. Proposal

It is proposed to amend paragraph 6.5.4.12.3 “Method of testing”, by adding a new sentence as follows:

“The test will be performed using in a first stage the lifting devices next to the floor, and then, in a second stage, using the same IBC, the lifting devices further from the floor, taking into account the IBC position lying on its side”.

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