



Secretariat

Distr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2008/54
15 April 2008

Original: ENGLISH

**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

Thirty-third session
Geneva, 30 June-9 July (a.m) 2008
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

EXPLOSIVES AND RELATED MATTERS

Criteria for excluding articles from Class 1

Transmitted by the expert from the United States of America*

Introduction

1. At its thirty-first session, the Sub-Committee considered UN/SCETDG/31/INF.36 which discussed prospective criteria for classifying an article as non-explosive under the general guidance provided in Section 2.1.1.1(b) of the Model Regulations. As the paper was favourably received by a number of experts, a specific proposal to amend the Model Regulations is offered for further consideration by the Sub-Committee.

Definitions and General Provisions for Class 1

2. In Chapter 2.1 of the Model Regulations, the definitions and general provisions section 2.1.1.1 states that Class 1 comprises: (b) "Explosive articles, except devices containing explosive substances in such quantity or of such character that their inadvertent or accidental ignition or

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2007-2008 approved by the Committee at its third session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/60 para. 100 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/34, para. 14).

initiation during transport shall not cause any effect external to the device either by projection, fire, smoke, heat or loud noise;”

Harmonized Criteria for Exclusion from Class 1

3. Section 2.1.3.6.1 of the Model Regulations currently states that “The Competent Authority may exclude an article or substance from Class 1 by virtue of test results and the Class 1 definition.” Specific test criteria for exclusion of substances from Class 1 is addressed in sections 2.1.3.6.2 and 2.1.3.6.3 but no test criteria are given for exclusion of articles consistent with the definitions and general provisions in section 2.1.1.1 (b). The following proposal is offered to address this deficiency.

Proposal

4. Add a new Section 2.1.3.6.4 to the Model Regulations to read as follows:

2.1.3.6.4 An article shall be excluded from Class 1 when not less than three unpackaged articles, individually functioned by the means it was intended or by external means to simulate the same effect, meet the following test criteria:

- (a) None of the external surfaces nearest the explosive substance(s), in any of the test articles shall exceed 200 °C;*
 - (b) None of the test articles shall produce any rupture or fragmentation of the external casing or shall produce movement of any article more than one metre in any direction;*
 - (c) None of the test articles shall produce an audible report exceeding 150 decibels when measured with an ANSI Type 1 Sound Level meter or 140 decibels when measured with an ANSI Type 2 Sound Level Meter placed not more than 1 meter (39.3 inches) away; and*
 - (d) None of the test articles in a closed chamber with an approximate volumetric capacity of one cubic meter, shall produce sufficient smoke to reduce visibility in that chamber more than fifty (50) percent as measured by a calibrated light (lux) meter located one meter from a constant light source within the chamber.”.*
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