



**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****Forty-fifth session**

Geneva, 1 – 9th December 2014

Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda

**Recommendations made by the Sub-Committee on its forty-third,
forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions and pending issues: electric storage systems****Including definitions for batteries in the Model Regulations****Transmitted by the Dangerous Goods Advisory Council (DGAC)¹****Introduction**

1. At the forty-fifth session of the Sub-Committee DGAC suggested that it would be useful to include the definitions for “lithium cell”, “battery” and “single cell battery” in the Model Regulations. These terms are defined in the Manual of Tests and Criteria. The informal working group on testing large lithium batteries is reviewing the definitions and will likely propose amendments. The reason that DGAC suggested adding definition to the Model Regulations is because consignors must understand the difference between a cell and battery in order to comply with the exceptions provided in SP 188 for lithium batteries contained in equipment. Common consignors do not generally acquire or have access to the Manual of Tests and Criteria. On this basis, it would be useful to include these definitions in the Model Regulations.

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2013-2014 approved by the Committee at its sixth session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/84, para. 86 and ST/SG/AC.10/40, para. 14).

Proposal

2. It is proposed to add the following definitions, as developed by the informal working group on testing large lithium batteries*² in 1.2.1 of the Model Regulations:

Cell means a single encased electrochemical unit (one positive and one negative electrode) which exhibits a voltage differential across its two terminals, and may contain its protection devices. See definitions for battery and single cell battery.

Battery means two or more cells or batteries which are electrically connected together and fitted with devices necessary for use, for example, case, terminals, marking ~~and~~ or protective devices. Units which have 2 or more cells that are commonly referred to as “battery packs”, “modules” or “battery assemblies” having the primary function of providing a source of power to another piece of equipment are for the purposes of the Model Regulations and the Manual of Tests and Criteria treated as batteries. See definitions for cell and single cell battery.

Single cell battery means a cell externally fitted with devices necessary for use in equipment or another battery which it is designed to power, for example protective devices. See definitions for cell and battery. A single cell battery is considered a “cell”.

² These definitions will be reviewed once more by the informal working group and additional edits may be agreed in which case the Sub-Committee is invited to adopt the definitions proposed by the working group and agreed to by the Sub-Committee.