



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-sixth session

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Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Listing, classification and packing

Scope of 4.1.2.2

Transmitted by the expert from Switzerland*

Summary

- Executive summary:** Clarify the scope of 4.1.2.2 for non-metal intermediate bulk containers (IBCs) to enable their carriage for the disposal or recycling of the dangerous goods they contain.
- Action to be taken:** Amend the text of 4.1.2.2.
- Related documents:** ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2019/27, ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/110

Introduction

1. At the July 2019 session, document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2019/27 raised the issue of the transport of rigid plastics IBCs after the date of expiry of the last periodic test or inspection specified in 4.1.2.2. The reasons for raising this issue are given in the document cited.
2. According to the report of the meeting, the Sub-Committee could not find a consensus on the proposal. While some delegations considered that the current provisions were clear and fit for purpose, others acknowledged that the text could be improved to address the issue raised by Switzerland and proposed some improvements (e.g. restructuring the text to make the new text only applicable to IBCs for disposal, including non-metallic IBCs).
3. In the proposal presented below, we have separated the case of metal IBCs from that of non-metallic IBCs. We are adding a new heading to 4.1.2.2. We maintain the current text for metal IBCs in paragraph 4.1.2.2.1 and add a paragraph 4.1.2.2.2 for rigid plastics IBC or

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for the biennium 2019–2020 approved by the Committee at its ninth session (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/108, para. 141, and ST/SG/AC.10/46, para. 14).



composite IBCs that is almost identical to the current text in 4.1.2.2 but in which the references to inspections and tests, which are currently in the plural, are replaced by a reference to the two and a half year inspection, which is the only inspection to which these IBCs are subject during their period of validity.

Proposal

4. Amend 4.1.2.2 as follows (added text underlined in bold, deleted text in strikethrough):

Add a new heading to read “4.1.2.2 Filling of IBCs after the date of expiry of the last periodic inspection and test and the period of use”.

Delete the words “~~rigid plastics IBC or composite IBC,~~” in the first sentence of the current 4.1.2.2 and renumber the current 4.1.2.2 as 4.1.2.2.1 as follows:

“4.1.2.2.1 Every metal, ~~rigid plastics and composite~~ IBC, shall be inspected and tested, as relevant, in accordance with 6.5.4.4 or 6.5.4.5: ... [remains unchanged].”

Insert a new paragraph 4.1.2.2.2 as follows:

“4.1.2.2.2 Every rigid plastics IBC or composite IBC shall be inspected and tested, as relevant, in accordance with 6.5.4.4 or 6.5.4.5:

- **before it is put into service;**
- **thereafter at an interval of not more than two and a half years; and**
- **after the repair or remanufacture, before it is re-used for carriage.**

A rigid plastics IBC or composite IBC shall not be filled and offered for carriage after the date of expiry of the last periodic test or inspection or after the date of expiry of the period of use accepted in accordance with 4.1.1.15. However, a rigid plastics IBC or composite IBC filled prior to the date of expiry of the two and a half year inspection or after the date of expiry of the period of use accepted in accordance with 4.1.1.15 may be carried for a period not to exceed three months beyond the date of expiry of the last periodic inspection.

In addition, a rigid plastics or composite IBC may be carried:

- **after the date of expiry of the two and a half year inspection after emptying but before cleaning, for purposes of performing the required inspection prior to refilling; and**
- **unless otherwise approved by the competent authority, for a period not to exceed six months beyond the date of expiry of the period of use accepted in accordance with 4.1.1.15 or the date of expiry of the periodic inspection to allow the return of dangerous goods or residues for proper disposal or recycling. Reference to this exemption shall be entered in the transport document.”**