

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 Globally Harmonized
System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

8 December 2020

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Items 3 (a), 3 (b) and 3 (c) of the provisional agenda

Work of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG) on matters of interest to the GHS Sub-Committee

Note by the secretariat

1. At its fifty-seventh session, the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG Sub-Committee) considered matters of interest to the GHS Sub-Committee under items 2 (b) and 11 of its agenda¹ (“explosives and related matters” and “Issues relating to the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals” respectively).
2. Questions under the agenda item “Explosives and related matters” were referred to the Working Group on Explosives, which met via web conference on 17 and 18 November 2020 to conclude its business prior to and in support of the work of the sub-committees. The report of the Working Group on Explosives has been circulated as informal document INF.38 (TDG Sub-Committee)².
3. Having considered the report of the Working Group on Explosives and the explanations provided by its Chairman, the TDG Sub-Committee reached the conclusions listed below for each matter of interest to the GHS Sub-Committee under consideration under agenda items 2 (b) and 11 of its agenda.
4. For all other matters considered by the Working Group on Explosives and the decisions taken by the TDG Sub-Committee (e.g. amendments to test series 6, 8 and N.1, packing instructions for explosives etc) refer to informal document INF.38 and the report of the TDG Sub-Committee.

GHS agenda item 3 (a)

Manual of Tests and Criteria, review of Test Series H: determination of self-accelerating decomposition temperature

Documents: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2020/4 and Add.1 (Chairman of the Working Group on Explosives)

Informal document: INF.3 (Chairman of the Working Group on Explosives)

¹ ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/113/Add.1/Rev.1.

² <http://www.unece.org/trans/main/dgdb/dgsub3/c3inf57.html>.

5. The TDG Sub-Committee endorsed the recommendation of its Explosives Working Group and adopted the amendments to Tests Series H of the Manual of Tests and Criteria, proposed in ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2020/4 and Add.1.

Tests for oxidizing liquids and oxidizing solids: improvement regarding consideration for particle size, friable or coated materials

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2020/9 (France)

6. The TDG Sub-Committee adopted the proposed note in relation paragraphs 34.4.1.2.6 and 34.4.3.2.3 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria. The note takes account of the results of the Round Robin Tests conducted so far and aims at improving the approach to properly assess the oxidizing potential of coated materials.

GHS agenda item 3 (b)

Review of Chapter 2.1

Documents: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2020/5 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2020/5/Add.1 (Sweden)
ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2020/8 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2020/8/Add.1 (Sweden)
ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2020/16 (Sweden)
ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2020/18 (Sweden)

Informal documents: INF.14 (Sweden)
INF.16 (Sweden)
INF.19 (Sweden)
INF.22 (Germany)
INF.25 (Sweden)
INF.29 (Sweden)
INF.30 (Sweden)

Background documents: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2020/7 (Sweden)
INF.10 (IME, SAAMI) and INF.13 (Sweden)

7. The expert from Sweden provided a brief summary of the discussions on the review of Chapter 2.1 of the GHS. After consideration of the recommendations of the Working Group on Explosives in informal document INF.38 (paragraphs 13 to 15), the Sub-Committee endorsed them and adopted, between square brackets and subject to the adoption by the GHS Sub-Committee of the revised Chapter 2.1 of the GHS, the consequential amendments to the Manual of Tests and Criteria in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2020/60 as amended by informal document INF.38 (paragraph 14).

GHS agenda item 3 (c)

Clarification of 2.9.3.4.3.4 of the Model Regulations and 4.1.3.3.4 of the GHS

Document: ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2020/10 and ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2020/10/Add.1 (China)

8. After some discussion, the TDG Sub-Committee adopted the amendments to 2.9.3.4.3.4 of the Model Regulations in option 2 in document ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2020/10.
