

Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

1 December 2021

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Fifty-ninth session

Geneva, 29 November-8 December 2021

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Listing, classification and packing

Transport conditions for UN 2426 Ammonium Nitrate

Transmitted by the expert from Spain

Introduction

1. Following the discussion of ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2021/48, the Sub-Committee asked the Spanish experts to prepare an informal document including the modifications due to the comments made.
2. The major suggestion was the need to add a new special provision separating the text concerning to the conditions for the transport of UN 2426 AMMONIUM NITRATE (hot concentrated solution) from the conditions for the exemptions from the regulations by including a new special provision.
3. Also, it was asked for the inclusion of the pH value in square brackets and give time to the experts to propose alternative values, if needed. One delegation also recommended to put the chloride concentration in brackets to allow for further feedback from industry. Finally, some editorial suggestions received from the Secretariat were also taken into account.
4. Even if the Sub-Committee asked for two separate special provisions, Spain would like to present two options for the text; one as required in two separate special provisions, and one following an editorial suggestion from Canada received before the session that also could help clarifying the text, without creating two special provisions.
5. Spain asks the Sub-Committee to take a decision on one of the two options presented below.

Proposal

Proposal 1

6. Modify special provision 252 as follows (new text is underlined):

“SP 252 Provided the ammonium nitrate remains in solution under all conditions of transport, aqueous solutions of ammonium nitrate, with not more than 0.2 % combustible material, in a concentration not exceeding 80 %, are not subject to these Regulations if they do not meet the criteria of any other class or division.”
7. Add a new special provision SP XXX for UN 2426

“This substance is permitted for transport, provided that:

 - (a) The solution does not contain more than 93 % ammonium nitrate;
 - (b) The solution shall contain at least 7 % of water;
 - (c) The solution does not contain more than 0.2 % combustible material;

- (d) The solution does not contain chlorine compounds in quantities such that the chloride ion level exceeds [0.02] % ;
- (e) The pH of an aqueous solution of 10 % of the substance is between [5 and 7], measured at 25 °C; and
- (f) The maximum allowable transport temperature of the solution shall be 140 °C.”

Proposal 2

8. Modify special provision 252 as follows (new text is underlined):

“SP 252 ~~Provided the ammonium nitrate remains in solution under all conditions of transport, aqueous solutions of ammonium nitrate, with not more than 0.2 % combustible material, in a concentration not exceeding 80 %, are not subject to these Regulations.~~

This substance is permitted for transport, provided that:

- (a) The solution does not contain more than 93 % ammonium nitrate;
- (b) The solution shall contain at least 7 % of water;
- (c) The solution does not contain more than 0.2 % combustible material;
- (d) The solution does not contain chlorine compounds in quantities such that the chloride ion level exceeds [0.02] %;
- (e) The pH of an aqueous solution of 10 % of the substance is between [5 and 7], measured at 25 °C; and
- (f) The maximum allowable transport temperature of the solution shall be 140 °C.

This substance is not subject to these Regulations if:

- (g) It is in a concentration not exceeding 80%;
- (h) It contains not more than 0.2% combustible material
- (i) It remains in solution under all conditions of transport; and
- (j) It does not meet the criteria of any other class or division.”