Marking of tanks carrying flammable liquefied gases that are fitted with safety valves

Transmitted by Liquid Gas Europe on behalf of the BLEVE working group*, **, ***

1. The BLEVE Working Group, working according to terms of reference from the Joint Meeting, has been looking at measures that will prevent a Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion (BLEVE) event occurring in the event of a fire when flammable liquids and flammable gases are transported. With the mandatory requirement for the fitting of safety valves in tanks transporting flammable liquefied gases being adopted, further work has been requested on the marking of tanks fitted with safety valves.

2. To aid emergency services proposal 1 below includes a new 6.8.3.2.9.6 on identification letters that will have to be displayed on tanks.

3. Additionally, two new transitional measures are proposed in 1.6.3 and 1.6.4 (proposal 2 below).

Proposal 1: new 6.8.3.2.9.6

"6.8.3.2.9.6 Safety valve mark

6.8.3.2.9.6.1 Tanks fitted with safety valves in accordance with 6.8.3.2.9 shall display the mark as set out in 6.8.3.2.9.6.2 to 6.8.3.2.9.6.5.

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* A/76/6 (Sect.20), para. 20.76.
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6.8.3.2.9.6.2 The mark shall consist of a white square with minimum dimensions of 250 mm x 250 mm. The black line inside the edge shall be parallel and 12.5 mm from the outside of that line to the outside edge of the mark. The black letters ‘SV’ shall be a minimum of 120 mm high.

6.8.3.2.9.6.3 For tank-containers with a capacity of less than 1,500 litres the dimensions of the mark may be reduced to a minimum of 120 mm x 120 mm. The black line inside the edge shall be parallel and 6 mm from the outside of that line to the outside edge of the mark. The black letters ‘SV’ shall be a minimum of 60 mm high.

6.8.3.2.9.6.4 The material used shall be weather-resistant and ensure durable marking. The mark shall not become detached from its mount in the event of 15 minutes’ engulfment in fire. It shall remain affixed irrespective of the orientation of the tank.

6.8.3.2.9.6.5 The letters ‘SV’ shall be indelible and shall remain legible after 15 minutes’ engulfment in fire.

(RID: )
6.8.3.2.9.6.6 The marks shall be displayed on both sides and both ends of tank-containers. For tank-containers with a capacity of less than 1,500 litres the marks may be displayed either on both sides or on both ends.
The marks shall be displayed on both sides and the rear of fixed tanks and on both sides and both ends of demountable tanks.

For tank-containers with a capacity of less than 1,500 litres the marks can be displayed either on both sides or on both ends.”

Proposal 2: Transitional measures

(ADR:)
1.6.3 Insert the following new transitional provision:

“1.6.3.xx Fixed tanks (tank-vehicles) and demountable tanks that are already fitted with safety valves meeting the requirements of 6.8.3.2.9 as applicable from 1 January 2023 do not need to have the mark in accordance with 6.8.3.2.9.6 before 31 December 2024.”

(RID/ADR:)
1.6.4 Insert the following new transitional provision:

“1.6.4.xx Tank-containers that are already fitted with safety valves meeting the requirements of 6.8.3.2.9 as applicable from 1 January 2023 do not need to have the mark in accordance with 6.8.3.2.9.6 before 31 December 2024.”