

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

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Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Listing, classification and packaging

Addition of class 8 as subsidiary hazard to UN 1040 ETHYLENE OXIDE or ETHYLENE OXIDE WITH NITROGEN up to a total pressure of 1 MPa (10 bar) at 50 °C

Transmitted by the expert from Germany

Introduction

1. According to the UN Model Regulations, UN 1040 *ETHYLENE OXIDE or ETHYLENE OXIDE WITH NITROGEN up to a total pressure of 1 MPa (10 bar) at 50 °C* is classified in subclass 2.3 (toxic gas) with the subsidiary hazard 2.1 (flammable).
2. Taking into account the new harmonised classification, entered into force on 9th September 2021 and published within the fourteenth adaptation to technical progress (ATP) of annex VI of the Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on classification, labelling and packaging (CLP), (ethylene oxide shows corrosive properties) classification corresponding to class 8 is proposed.

Background

3. Ethylene oxide, CAS No. 75-21-8, is currently listed under Index No. 603-023-00-X in annex VI of EC Regulation No. 1272/2008 on classification, labelling and packaging and is classified as:

Flam. Gas 1, H220

Acute Tox. 3*, H331

This meets the criteria for classification as a dangerous good according to the UN Model Regulations under class 2, subclass 2.3, with subsidiary hazard 2.1.

4. With the fourteenth ATP entering into force, the following amendments were added (in *italics*) and the existing classification was altered (underlined), resulting in the classification of ethylene oxide as follows:

Acute Tox. 3, H331

Acute Tox. 3, H301

Skin Corr. 1, H314

This corresponds to a subclass 2.3 classification in the Dangerous Goods List with the subsidiary risks 2.1. and 8.

Proposal

5. As ethylene oxide meets the criteria for class 8, and within the scope of harmonizing GHS classification with the transport regulations of dangerous goods, Germany proposes to amend UN 1040 *ETHYLENE OXIDE* or *ETHYLENE OXIDE WITH NITROGEN* up to a total pressure of 1 MPa (10 bar) at 50 °C as follows (new text is underlined):

In 3.2 Dangerous Goods List add "8" in column (4) as subsidiary hazard after "2.1".

6. The transport conditions should remain unchanged, as indicated in principle by the Guiding Principles.
