

## **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

24 May 2023

Sixty-second session

Geneva, 3-7 July 2023

Item 2 (h) of the provisional agenda

**Explosives and related matters: Miscellaneous**

### **Report of the intersessional correspondence group on fireworks**

**Submitted by the Chair of the Working group on explosives**

#### **Introduction**

1. On 5 April 2023, the Intersessional Correspondence Group (ICG) on fireworks convened in an online meeting. There were 30 attendees from various countries and NGO's.
2. The group discussed the subjects as identified during the last working group meeting:
  - (a) A review of the default table given the new and novel compositions being encountered on the fireworks market;
  - (b) The clarification in the description of the 6(c) test on the arrangement of packages, witness panels and 0.15 m<sup>3</sup> requirement; and
  - (c) Ideas for building confidence in the technical documentation.
3. The group unanimously supported a review of the default table. A number of examples of new and novel compositions were given, such as those containing nitrocellulose (with various nitrogen content; with and without stabiliser), ammonium perchlorate, increasing amounts of whistle compositions and the addition iron powder (which, in a fine form, can have catalytic effects).

An example was given of a rocket that had mainly a report effect but with the addition of a few colour stars so the product could fall in another category.

Problems with the definition of shot tubes, Roman candles and preloaded mortars were identified by Germany, including draft proposals to address those problems.
4. There was also support for further clarification of the 6(c) test description and other issues than described under number 2 were identified such as orientation of articles and dispersion of liquid fuel upon an event where gases are released that could (wrongly) be interpreted as a fireball resulting from the product under test.
5. No solid proposals for building confidence in the technical documentation were made during the meeting, but the group underlined the importance of reliable documentation since it is often the basis for the (default) classification and approval of products.

#### **Proposal**

6. The Sub-Committee is requested to mandate the working group on explosives to discuss the subjects (a) to (c) given above (including closely related matters) and to develop proposals for further improvement.
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