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

Sixty-third session
Geneva, 27 November-6 December 2023

Item 6 (c) of the provisional agenda

Miscellaneous proposals for amendments to the Model Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods:

Portable tanks

Modification of the definitions of "FRP tank" and "FRP shell" in 6.9.2.1 of the Model Regulations

Transmitted by the expert from Poland*

I. Introduction

1. During the sixty-second session of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, which took place in Geneva in July 2023, the following documents were considered:

   (a) ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/20 - Modification of the definitions of "FRP tank" and "FRP shell" in 6.9.2.1 of the Model Regulations (submitted by Poland) and

   (b) UN/SCETDG/62/INF.43 - Comments of the informal working group on fiber reinforced plastics (FRP) service equipment for portable tanks on document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2023/20 (submitted by the informal working group),

   relating to the definition of an FRP tank and the definition of an FRP shell in Chapter 6.9 of the Model Regulations.


3. Due to the doubts of some experts, draft amendments to the twenty-third revised edition of the Recommendations on the Carriage of Dangerous Goods, the Model Regulations, have been enclosed in square brackets for further consideration at the next session.

* A/77/6 (Sect. 20), table 20.6
4. Poland has undertaken to present a new document which will take into account the proposals contained in the above-mentioned documents and the comments of the delegates presented during the session.

5. In addition, Poland proposes to introduce in chapter 6.9 a correction of terms related to the change in the definition of an FRP shell and an FRP portable tank.

6. Poland proposes the following solutions.

II. Proposals

1. Proposal 1

7. In 6.9.2.1, in the definition of FRP shell, in the first sentence, Poland proposes to replace the conjunction "or" with the conjunction "and".

8. The revised definition of the FRP shell will be as follows (changes from text adopted in previous session in underlined bold):

   “FRP shell means the part of the portable tank constructed from FRP, which retains the substance intended for transport (tank proper), including openings and their closures, but does not include service equipment and external structural equipment. Openings and their closures may be manufactured from metallic materials or FRP;”

Justification

9. If we use the conjunction “or” it means that three cases are allowed:
   (a) FRP shell does not include service equipment but includes external structural equipment,
   (b) FRP shell includes service equipment but does not include external structural equipment,
   (c) FRP shell includes neither service equipment nor structural equipment.

10. Poland considers that only the third case should occur as neither service equipment nor structural equipment should be considered as a component of an FRP shell (as well as other shell of tank).

11. Therefore, in our opinion, the correction consisting in replacing the conjunction “or” with the conjunction “and” in the definition of FRP shell is correct and should be introduced.

2. Proposal 2

12. Poland proposes to extend the definition of FRP portable tanks in 6.9.2.1 as follows (changes from text adopted in previous session in underlined bold or strikethrough):

   “FRP portable tank means a portable tank, as defined in 6.7.2.1, equipped with an FRP shell, intended for the carriage of dangerous goods of Classes or Divisions 1, 3, 5.1, 6.1, 6.2, 8 and 9;”

Justification

13. The proposed definition of an FRP portable tank corresponds to the assumptions adopted in 6.9.1 (Application and general requirements) of the Model Regulations. In accordance with the provisions of 6.9.1.1, the requirements of 6.9.2 apply to portable tanks with FRP shells intended for the carriage of dangerous goods in the scope limited to Classes or Divisions 1, 3, 5.1, 6.1, 6.2, 8 and 9.

14. Thus, the proposed definition of an FRP portable tank reflects the assumptions made for FRP portable tanks in 6.9.1 of the Model Regulations.
3. **Proposal 3**

   15. Leave unchanged (remove the square brackets):

       6.9.2.3.14.1 Replace “FRP tanks” with “FRP portable tanks”.

4. **Proposal 4**

   16. Poland proposes to replace the existing amendment:

       [6.9.2.8.1 In the first sentence, replace “FRP tanks” by “FRP portable tanks”.

       by the following:

       6.9.2.8.1 In the first sentence, replace “portable FRP tanks” by “FRP portable tanks”.]

       and to remove square brackets.

5. **Proposal 5**

   17. Leave the existing amendment unchanged:

       6.9.2.3.16.2 In the first sentence, replace “weight” by “mass”.

6. **Proposal 6**

   18. Poland proposes to add a new amendment:

       6.9.2.5 In the first sentence, replace “FRP tanks” by “FRP portable tanks”.

7. **Proposal 7**

   19. We propose to add a new amendment:

       6.9.2.6.4 Replace “tank” with “FRP portable tank”.

8. **Proposal 8**

   20. We propose to add a new amendment:

       6.9.2.7.1.5.1 Replace “tank” with “FRP shell”.

9. **Proposal 9**

   21. We propose to add a new amendment:

       6.9.2.8.3 Replace “tank” with “FRP portable tank”.

10. **Proposal 10**

    22. We propose to add a new amendment:

       6.9.2.8.4 Replace “shell” with “FRP shell” (twice).

11. **Proposal 11**

    23. We propose to add a new amendment:

       6.9.2.9 Replace “shell” by “FRP shell” (twice) and “tank” by “FRP portable tank”
12. Proposal 12

24. Poland proposes to add a new amendment:

6.9.2.10.2 Replace “Shell” with “FRP shell”.

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