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-fourth session
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Item 4 (c) of the provisional agenda

Electric storage systems:
Transport provisions

Transport of sodium ion batteries with organic electrolyte installed in cargo transport unit

Transmitted by the expert from China*

I. Background

1. Sodium ion batteries are widely used in many fields, including the energy storage industry, due to their good low-temperature performance, low price and abundant mineral resources. The demand for its transport is increasing. However, there is no entry for the transport of sodium ion batteries with organic electrolyte installed in cargo transport unit in the twenty-third revised edition of the Model Regulations.

2. At the sixty-third session of the Sub-Committee, China submitted informal document INF.14, proposing to introduce a new entry for sodium ion batteries with organic electrolyte installed in cargo transport unit. During the discussion, some experts supported in principle the inclusion of a new entry, while others preferred amending UN 3536 to make it applicable to the transport of sodium ion batteries with organic electrolyte installed in cargo transport unit.

II. Proposal

3. China proposes the following amendments to the Model Regulations (new text is underlined, deleted text is stricken through).

Chapter 2.9, paragraph 2.9.2
Amend the name for UN 3536 as follows:

“LITHIUM BATTERIES or SODIUM BATTERIES INSTALLED IN CARGO TRANSPORT UNIT, lithium ion batteries, or lithium metal batteries or sodium ion batteries with organic electrolyte”;

* A/78/6 (Sect. 20), table 20.5.
Chapter 3.2, dangerous goods list

For UN 3536, amend the proper shipping name in column (2) as follows:

“LITHIUM BATTERIES or SODIUM BATTERIES INSTALLED IN CARGO TRANSPORT UNIT, lithium ion batteries, or lithium metal batteries or sodium ion batteries with organic electrolyte”;

Chapter 3.3, special provisions

In special provision 360, amend the last sentence as follows:

“Lithium batteries or sodium batteries installed in cargo transport units, designed only to provide power external to the transport unit shall be assigned to entry UN3536 LITHIUM BATTERIES or SODIUM BATTERIES INSTALLED IN CARGO TRANSPORT UNIT”;

In special provision 388, amend the last sentence of the eighth paragraph as follows:

“Lithium ion batteries, or lithium metal batteries or sodium ion batteries with organic electrolyte installed in a cargo transport unit and designed only to provide power external to the cargo transport unit shall be assigned to the entry UN3536 LITHIUM BATTERIES or SODIUM BATTERIES INSTALLED IN CARGO TRANSPORT UNIT, lithium ion batteries, or lithium metal batteries or sodium ion batteries with organic electrolyte”;

In special provision 389, amend the last sentence of the eighth paragraph as follows:

“This entry only applies to lithium ion batteries, or lithium metal batteries or sodium ion batteries with organic electrolyte installed in a cargo transport unit and designed only to provide power external to the cargo transport unit.”

Alphabetical index of substances and articles

Amend the name for UN 3536, as follows:

“LITHIUM BATTERIES or SODIUM BATTERIES INSTALLED IN CARGO TRANSPORT UNIT, lithium ion batteries, or lithium metal batteries or sodium ion batteries with organic electrolyte.”.