



**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****Forty-third session**

Geneva, 24 June–28 June 2013

Item 2 (f) of the provisional agenda

Explosives and related matters: miscellaneous**Mixed transport of goods of Class 1 with other classes in
freight containers, vehicles or wagons****Transmitted by the expert from Sweden¹****Background**

1. In 2012 Sweden presented a proposal (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2012/17) to the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting to permit mixed loading of packages of goods of Class 1 and UN 3375 AMMONIUM NITRATE EMULSION or SUSPENSION or GEL on a vehicle. There was some support for the proposal, but it was felt that the proposal should first be submitted to the United Nations Sub-Committee of Experts because the provisions originate from the UN Model Regulations, (see report ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/126, paragraph 44.)
2. Subsection 7.1.3.2.3 states that transport is permitted for blasting explosives and ammonium nitrate (UN Nos. 1942 and 2067) and other substances provided the aggregate is treated as blasting explosives under Class 1 for the purposes of placarding, segregation, stowage and maximum permissible load.
3. During blasting activities, UN 3375 AMMONIUM NITRATE EMULSION or SUSPENSION or GEL, which has nearly the same characteristics as UN 1942 and UN 2067, is commonly used. Mixed loading of UN 3375 and blasting explosives is already permitted on Mobile Explosives Manufacturing Units (MEMUs) according to the provisions in section 4.7.1 of ADR.

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2013-2014 approved by the Committee at its sixth session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/84, para. 86 and ST/SG/AC.10/40, para. 14).

4. The expert of Sweden is therefore of the opinion that UN 3375 should be treated in the same way as UN 1942 and UN 2067, and that transports containing UN 3375 and blasting explosives should be permitted. However, the aggregate should still be treated as blasting explosives in Class 1.
5. Sweden proposes to include UN 3375 in 7.1.3.2.3.

Proposal

6. In 7.1.3.2.3, add the following text: “ammonium nitrate emulsion or suspension or gel (UN 3375)”. 7.1.3.2.3 would then read as follows (new text underlined):

"7.1.3.2.3 Blasting explosives (except UN 0083 Explosive, blasting, type C) may be transported together with ammonium nitrate (UN Nos. 1942 and 2067), ammonium nitrate emulsion or suspension or gel (UN 3375) and alkali metal nitrates (e.g. UN 1486) and alkaline earth metal nitrates (e.g. UN 1454) provided the aggregate is treated as blasting explosives under Class 1 for the purposes of placarding, segregation, stowage and maximum permissible load."

NOTE: Alkali metal nitrates include caesium nitrate (UN 1451), lithium nitrate (UN 2722), potassium nitrate (UN 1486), rubidium nitrate (UN 1477) and sodium nitrate (UN 1498). Alkaline earth metal nitrates include barium nitrate (UN 1446), beryllium nitrate (UN 2464), calcium nitrate (UN 1454), magnesium nitrate (UN 1474) and strontium nitrate (UN 1507).

Justification

7. Ammonium nitrate emulsion or suspension or gel (UN 3375) is very similar to other ammonium nitrates (UN 1942 and 2067), and is commonly used at work sites where blasting is performed these days. Compared to UN 1942 and UN 2067, there is no increased risk, and to facilitate transport to work sites, UN 3375 should be allowed to be transported together with the blasting explosives.
