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COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
(Eighteenth session, 3-14 July 2000, agenda item 5 (a))

MISCELLANEOUS DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE MODEL REGULATIONS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Listing and classification

Class 8 - Exemption of Batteries (Alkali-Manganese-, Zincarbon-, Nickel-Metalhydride and Nickel-Cadmium-Batteries as well as Button cells, UN No. 3028, from the provisions of the UN Model Regulations

Transmitted by the expert from Germany

1. BACKGROUND

UN No. 3028 "BATTERIES, DRY, CONTAINING POTASSIUM HYDROXIDE, SOLID, ELECTRIC STORAGE" is listed in chapter 3.2, Class 8, with Special provision 295, packing instruction P809.

Batteries, dry, sealed and gasproof closed like Alkali-Manganese-Primary-Batteries, Nickel-Cadmium- and Nickel-Metalhydride-Batteries are not subject to UN No. 3028, class 8, as they do not react corrosive according to class 8 - due to their sealed, gasproof closure. To the opinion of Germany these batteries are not dangerous goods. During transport, however, these batteries (accumulators) should be protected from short-circuits, caused by moving/displacement. This problem can be solved by using additional inner packagings, foil bags etc.

The above mentioned safety reasons correspond to those for traffic (see annex A of IATA-Dangerous Goods Regulations (Details page 662)).

2. PROPOSAL

It is proposed to add a new Special Provision XXX for UN No. 3028, in the Dangerous Goods List of the UN Model Regulations to read as follows:

" XXX Batteries, dry, sealed and gas proof closed such as Alkali-Manganese-, Zinccarbon-, Nickel-Metalhydride- and Nickel-Cadmium Batteries as well as button cells are not subject to Un No. 3028, Class 8, of the UN Recommendations. During transport these batteries (accumulators) shall be protected from short-circuits caused by moving/displacement e.g using additional inner packagings/foil bags etc.

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