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**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**
(Twenty-third session, 30 June -4 July 2003,
agenda item 4 (b))

PACKAGINGS

IBC testing

Transmitted by the expert from the United States of America

Background

1. The expert from the United States of America has identified certain clarifications that should be considered by the Sub-Committee relative to the requirements pertaining to the preparation of IBCs for drop testing. The intention of this paper is to propose amendments to paragraph 6.5.4.9.2 to clarify the requirements to clearly indicate that the IBC should be filled to their maximum permissible gross mass and to clarify that water may be used for liquids having a relative density greater than or equal to 1.2 consistent with paragraph 6.5.4.1.3. It is also proposed that the text currently in paragraph 6.5.4.1.3 be moved to 6.5.4.9.2 since the text concerns the preparation of IBCs used for the transport of liquids prior to the drop test. It is also proposed to revise the requirements for filling flexible IBCs prior to testing consistent with the amendment that was recently adopted for bags in 6.1.5.2.1 in the 13th revised edition of the Model Regulations.

Proposal

2. It is proposed that paragraph 6.5.4.9.2 be amended as follows:

6.5.4.9.2.1 Prior to testing the following conditions shall be met:

- (a) Metal IBCs: the IBC shall be filled to its maximum permissible gross mass and not less than 95% capacity for solids or not less than 98% for liquids. Pressure-relief devices shall be removed and their apertures plugged, or shall be rendered inoperative;

- (b) Flexible IBCs: the IBC shall be filled to the maximum mass to which they may be used. The contents shall be evenly distributed;
- (c) Rigid plastic and composite IBCs: the IBC shall be filled to its maximum permissible gross mass and not less than 95% capacity for solids or not less than 98% for liquids. Arrangements ...remainder is not proposed to be changed.
- (d) Fibreboard and Wooden IBCs: the IBC shall be filled to its maximum permissible gross mass and not less than 95% capacity.

Note that the words "in accordance with the design type" have been deleted. These were not considered necessary.

3. It is proposed that paragraph 6.5.4.9.2 be amended by more appropriately including the text from 6.5.4.1.3 in this paragraph and subsequently deleting 6.5.4.1.3. The text would be included as a new paragraph 6.5.4.9.2.2.
