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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

Thirty-fourth session
Geneva, 1-9 December (a.m) 2008
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

LISTING, CLASSIFICATION AND PACKING

Amendment to Packing Instruction IBC 520

Transmitted by the Dangerous Goods Advisory Council (DGAC)¹

Background

1. At present, Packing Instruction IBC 520 authorizes Peroxyacetic acid, stabilized, not more than 17 %, a type F liquid organic peroxide (UN 3109), to be transported in 31H1 plastics, 31HA1 composite, and 31A steel IBCs with a maximum capacities of 1500 litres. In this document, DGAC proposes to amend Packing Instruction IBC 520 to also authorize the transport of this substance in 31H2 rigid plastics IBCs of similar capacity.

2. Peroxyacetic acid, stabilized, not more than 17 % (UN 3109), has been transported for a number of years within the United States in 31H2 rigid plastics IBCs with a maximum capacity of 1500 litres with excellent experience. Such transport is currently authorized by the United States Competent Authority under Competent Authority Approval CA2007040002. A copy of this approval will be made available to any interested member of the Sub-Committee.

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2007-2008 approved by the Committee at its third session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/60 para. 100 and ST/SG/AC.10/34, para. 14).

3. As noted above, this substance is currently permitted under Packing Instruction IBC 520 to be transported in rigid plastics (31H1), composite (31HA1) and metal (31A) IBCs with a maximum capacity in each case of 1500 litres. The proposed 31H2 IBC differs from the authorized 31H1 IBC only in that the former is equipped with structural equipment to aid, for example, the mechanical handling and stacking of the IBC. Nevertheless, the characteristics of this type of IBC in terms of ability to dissipate heat are very similar to those of a 31H1 rigid plastics or 31HA1 composite IBC of similar capacity. In this connection, the thermal stability characteristics of the substance in question in the 31H2 IBC have been studied, and it has been determined that in such IBCs with a maximum capacity of 1500 litres the self-accelerating decomposition temperature (SADT) is above 50EC. Consequently, DGAC submits that transport of this substance in a 31H2 IBC with a maximum capacity of 1500 litres will afford a level of safety in transport that is consistent with that afforded by the transport of the substance in the currently authorized IBCs of similar capacity.

Proposal

4. In consideration of the foregoing, DGAC proposes that Packing Instruction IBC 520 be amended by including in the entry for “Peroxyacetic acid, stabilized, not more than 17 %” under UN 3109 ORGANIC PEROXIDE, TYPE F, LIQUID:

- (a) In the column headed “Type of IBC”, the code “31H2”; and
 - (b) In the column headed “Maximum quantity (litres)”, the figure “1500”.
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