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-eighth session

Geneva, 30 November-9 December 2015

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Listing, classification and packing

Carriage of toxic metal powders

Submitted by the expert from France[[1]](#footnote-1)

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| *Summary* |
| **Executive summary:** This paper proposes that the Sub-Committee should introduce new entries into the UN Recommendations to allow the proper classification and transport of metal powders with primary risk 6.1 and subsidiary risk 4.1. |
| **Related documents:** Informal document INF.34 (forty-seventh session)  ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/94 (final report of the forty-seventh session), para. 77  **IMO Documents:** CCC 1/6/12, CCC 1/13 (paras. 6.25 and 6.26), E&T 23/INF.3, CCC 2/6 (paras. 3.30 to 3.32), CCC 2/INF.24 |
| **Related documents:** Paragraph 9 and Annex |
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Background

1. The background documents, the oldest of which (OMI CCC 1/6/12) dates from September 2014, highlight the existence of metal powders with primary risk 6.1 (PG I and PG II) and subsidiary risk 4.1, substances for which there is currently no appropriate entry.

2. Informal document INF.34 (forty-seventh session), submitted to the forty-seventh session of the Sub-Committee in June 2015, contained annexes showing safety data sheets illustrating that fact for the case of cobalt powder.

Proposal

3. A first proposal to introduce new entries was appended to informal document INF.34 (forty-seventh session); some delegations wished to have a little more time to check whether the new entries were really needed, as mentioned in paragraph 77 of the report, ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/94.

4. In the present document, the expert from France, responding to a request from the Sub-Committee, submits an official proposal for the new entries to be included in the United Nations Recommendations in order to allow such substances to be transported in complete safety. The proposal is attached in the annex.

5. It should be noted that, for the carriage of metal powders with primary risk 4.1 (PG II or PG III) and subsidiary risk 6.1, the Editing and Technical Group of the International Maritime Organization Sub-Committee on Carriage of Cargoes and Containers considered that the existing UN No. 3179 was the most appropriate entry, on the condition that special provision 915, specifically maritime, be deleted from the IMDG Code (see document CCC 2/6, paras. 3.30 to 3.32).

6. During the forty-seventh session of the Sub-Committee in June 2015, a majority of delegations expressed a preference for as general as possible a proper shipping name (solid or solid, inorganic), rather than a more restrictive proper shipping name (metal powder).

7. Such an approach would also have the advantage of establishing a full parallel with the existing entries under UN No. 3124 (6.1, (4.2), PG I or PG II) and UN No. 3125 (6.1, (4.3), PG I or PG II).

8. The conditions of carriage allocated to the proposed new entries are similar in all aspects to those of the existing entries UN No. 3124 (6.1, (4.2), PG I or PG II) and UN No. 3125 (6.1, (4.3), PG I or PG II), which have similar properties.

Follow-up

9. The Sub-Committee is requested to consider and comment on the proposals in the annex and to take the action it deems appropriate.

Annex

Proposed amendments to the United Nations Recommendations

Insert the following entries into the Dangerous Goods List

| *UN No.* | *Name and description* | *Class or division* | *Subsidiary risk* | *Packing group* | *Special provisions* | *Limited and excepted quantities* | | *Packagings and IBCs* | | | *Portable tank and  bulk containers* | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Packing instructions* | *Special provisions* | | *Instructions* | *Special provisions* | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  | |  |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7a) | (7b) | (8) | | (9) | (10) | | (11) |
| - | 3.1.2 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0.1.3 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 3.5 | 4.1.4 | | 4.1.4 | 4.2.5/4.3.2 | | 4.2.5 |
| 35xx | TOXIC SOLID, FLAMMABLE [INORGANIC], N.O.S.  [METAL POWDER, TOXIC, FLAMMABLE, N.O.S.] | 6.1 | 4.1 | I | 274 | 0 | E5 | P00  IBC99 | | PP31  - | T6 | | TP33 |
| 35yy | TOXIC SOLID, FLAMMABLE [INORGANIC], N.O.S.  [METAL POWDER, TOXIC, FLAMMABLE, N.O.S.] | 6.1 | 4.1 | II | 274 | 500 g | E4 | P002  IBC08 | | PP31  B2, B3, B4 | T3 | | TP33 |

1. In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2015-2016 approved by the Committee at its seventh session (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/92, paragraph 95 and ST/SG/AC.10/42, para. 15). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)