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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**
(Nineteenth session, 2-6 July 2001,
agenda item 3 (b))

TANKS

Miscellaneous proposals

Requirements for the design, construction, inspection and testing of portable tanks

Transmitted by the expert from Spain

To add a new paragraph to section

6.7.2.19.7.

In spite of the above paragraph, tank containers older than 30 years old and on the occasion of the periodic inspection besides of the test required by 6.7.2.19.4, will be submitted to an exceptional inspection than must include what is showed in section 6,7,2,19,8 but using the following non-destructive testing methods depending on the case.

- a) In particular, for corrossions, cavities, deformations, exterior or interior scratches, including crackings, they will be used liquid-penetrant and magnetic particles, depending on the adequate method for each case,
- b) For microcracks, interior volumetrics defects, stress and intergrain corrosion or hidden similar defects, or the inside of the material as the double sheet defect or subface laminations, it will be used ultrasonic or radiograph o gammagraphic, depending on the adequate method for each case.

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In any case, if these defects exist, they will have to be relevant and serious, and not being authorized neither by the Construction Code, and that could constitute a possible serious danger or a decrease of the resistance of the tank container against impacts.

In case of existing serious and relevant defects, it will proceed according to the section 6.7.2.19.11.

Justification:

Our experience on tank container of dangerous goods through the last 15 years, has demonstrated that inspections of certain old containers are not correctly carried out, one of the reasons is that they are even destined to transport of non-dangerous goods, and subsequently they are reused for dangerous goods transport, for what the service equipment and joint, man hole inspection, volume, safety disks, are inadequately manipulated and changed. Besides, they are also destined to the transport of corrosive substances or very corrosives and toxic that have the worst environmental and technique maintenance characteristics, as many times it is neither economic nor advisable the transport of such substances in new tank containers, and therefore, they will be transported in old containers, already amortized, that although have passed the periodic inspections, can have deformations, stress or inadequate repaired or internal defects due to the continue use through the years, that demand a more detailed inspection.

Recommendations about welding joints are referred to the application of a Technique Code, and must be realized with the Art rule and offer all security guarantees, and during the initial testing only refrigerated and non-refrigerated gas portable tank containers are inspected by adequate non-destructive 6.7.3.15.3 and 6.7.4.14.3 methods. This will no applied to portable tank containers for the transport of substances classified as 3 to 9.
