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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-second session, 2-6 December 2002,
agenda item 3)

**TEXTS ADOPTED BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE AT ITS NINETEENTH, TWENTIEST AND
TWENTY-FIRST SESSIONS**

**Revision of Division 6.2 Provisions, P650 and Comments on the Proposed Text for Infectious
Substances**

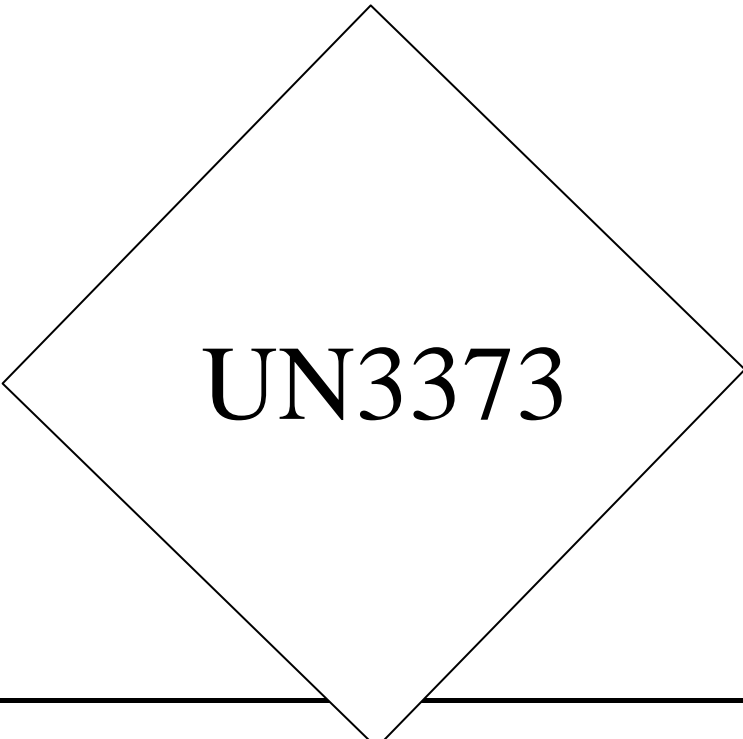
Transmitted by the expert from the United States of America

Background

1. At the twenty first session of the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, the expert from the United States indicated that some of the proposed requirements in the new P650 (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/42/Add.3) should be amended and agreed to submit a new proposal. We are also providing some additional comments on the new Division 6.2 requirements that were adopted as indicated in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/42/Add.3 on the basis of further review.

Proposal

2. Replace the proposed P650 with the following:

P 650	PACKING INSTRUCTION	P650
This packing instruction applies to UN 3373		
Part 1: Provisions for primary receptacles that do not exceed 500 mL or 500 g		
<p>(1) The packaging shall be of good quality, strong enough to withstand the shocks and loadings normally encountered during transport, including transshipment between transport units and between transport units and warehouses as well as any removal from a pallet or overpack for subsequent manual or mechanical handling. Packagings shall be constructed and closed to prevent any loss of contents that might be caused under normal conditions of transport by vibration or by changes in temperature, humidity or pressure.</p> <p>(2) The packaging shall consist of three components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) a primary receptacle,(b) a secondary packaging, and(c) an outer packaging. <p>(3) Primary receptacles shall be packed in secondary packagings in such a way that, under normal conditions of transport, they cannot break, be punctured or leak their contents into the secondary packaging. Secondary packagings shall be secured in outer packagings with suitable cushioning material. Any leakage of the contents shall not compromise the integrity of the cushioning material or of the outer packaging.</p> <p>(4) For transport, the mark illustrated below shall be displayed on the external surface of the outer packaging on a background of a contrasting colour and shall be clearly visible and legible. The width of the line shall be at least 2 mm; the letters and numbers shall be at least 6 mm high.</p>		
 <p>UN3373</p>		

The completed package shall be capable of successfully passing the drop test in 6.3.2.5 as specified in 6.3.2.3 and 6.3.2.4 except that the height of the drop shall not be less than 1.2 m.

- (5) For liquid substances:
- (1) The primary receptacle(s) shall be leakproof and shall not contain more than 500 mL of the liquid substance.
 - (2) The secondary packaging shall be leakproof.
 - (c) If multiple fragile primary receptacles are placed in a single secondary packaging, they shall be either individually wrapped or separated to prevent contact between them.
 - (d) Absorbent material shall be placed between the primary receptacle(s) and the secondary packaging. The absorbent material shall be in quantity sufficient to absorb the entire contents of the primary receptacle(s) so that any release of the liquid substance will not compromise the integrity of the cushioning material or of the outer packaging.
 - (e) The primary receptacle or the secondary packaging shall be capable of withstanding, without leakage, an internal pressure of 95 kPa (0.95 bar).
 - (f) The outer packaging shall not contain more than 4 litres of the liquid substance.
- (6) For solid substances:
- (a) The primary receptacle(s) shall be sift proof and shall not contain more than 500 g of the solid substance.
 - (b) The secondary packaging shall be siftproof.
 - (c) If multiple fragile primary receptacles are placed in a single secondary packaging, they shall be either individually wrapped or separated to prevent contact between them.
 - (d) The outer packaging shall not contain more than 4 kg of the solid substance.

Infectious substances in Category B which are packed and marked in accordance with Part 1 of this packing instruction are not subject to any other requirement in these Regulations.

Part 2: Provisions for primary receptacles that exceed 500 mL or 500 g (liquid and solid) or outer packagings that exceed 4 L or 4 kg.

- (1) When the primary receptacle(s) contain substances in excess of 500 mL or 500 g, the following packagings shall be used and shall meet the general provisions of 4.1.1 and 4.1.3 and the requirements of Chapter 6.1 at the packing group II performance level. Packagings shall be marked with the package markings specified in 6.1.3.
- (2) The packaging shall consist of three components:
 - (a) a primary receptacle,
 - (b) a secondary packaging, and
 - (c) a rigid outer packaging.
- (3) For liquid substances:

- (a) the primary receptacle and the secondary packaging shall be watertight,
 - (b) an absorbent material shall be placed between the primary receptacle(s) and the secondary packaging in a quantity sufficient to absorb the entire liquid content of the primary receptacle(s),
 - (c) if multiple fragile primary receptacles are placed in a single secondary packaging, they shall be either individually wrapped or separated to prevent contact between them,
 - (d) The primary receptacle or the secondary packaging shall be capable of withstanding, without leakage, an internal pressure producing a pressure differential of not less than 95 kPa (0.95 bar).
- (4) For solids substances, the primary receptacle and the secondary packaging shall be siftproof.
 - (5) Outer packagings constructed of suitable material of adequate strength and design in relation to the packaging capacity and its intended use shall be used. The smallest external dimension shall be not less than 100 mm.

Infectious substances in Category B that are marked according to Part 1 and packed in accordance with Part 2 of this packing instruction are subject to all the other requirements in these Regulations except that the label for Division 6.2 is not required. The UN number and proper shipping name are UN 3373, DIAGNOSTIC SPECIMENS or CLINICAL SPECIMENS.

Refrigerated or frozen specimens: Ice, Dry ice and liquid nitrogen

- (1) When dry ice or liquid nitrogen is used to keep specimens cold and packed in accordance with Part 1 or 2, all applicable requirements of these Regulations shall be met. When used, ice or dry ice shall be placed outside the secondary packagings or in the outside packaging or an overpack. Interior supports shall be provided to secure the secondary packagings in the original position after the ice or dry ice has dissipated. If ice is used, the outside packaging or overpack shall be leakproof. If Carbon dioxide, solid (dry ice) is used, the packaging must be designed and constructed to permit the release of carbon dioxide gas to prevent a build-up of pressure that could rupture the packagings and shall be marked "**Carbon dioxide, solid**" or "**Dry ice**".
- (2) The primary receptacle and the secondary packaging must maintain their integrity at the temperature of the refrigerant used as well as the temperatures and the pressures that could result if refrigeration were lost.

3. It is proposed that P650 be editorially amended so that the provisions for refrigerated or frozen specimens apply to both the Part 1 and Part 2 packagings in P650. In addition the Sub-Committee should consistently apply the same text for refrigerated or frozen substances in P650, P620 and P904.

Other comments and proposed amendments:

4. The use of live animals for the purpose of transporting infectious substances should not be authorized except when no other means of transport is possible. Live infected animals should not be transported unless absolutely necessary and only under competent authority approval because the Model Regulations don't provide requirements for the transport of live animals. Furthermore, we need to avoid an incident where an infected animal is released into the public and causes an outbreak of an infectious disease. It is proposed to add a new paragraph 2.6.3.2.6 to include this prohibition as follows:

2.6.3.2.6 Live animals shall not be used to for the purpose of transporting infectious substances unless such substances cannot be sent by any other means. An animal known to contain or be contaminated with an infectious substance must be transported under terms and conditions approved by the competent authority.

5. It is proposed that 7.1.6.2.3 be added to include a requirement for the decontamination of vehicles that have been contaminated by an infectious substance as follows:

7.1.6.2.3 Decontamination of transport units. "A railway wagon, road vehicle, cargo space of a ship, compartment of an aircraft or transport unit used to transport Division 6.2, infectious substances, shall be decontaminated before it is reused if the infectious substances were released from their packaging during transport. Decontamination may be achieved by any means that effectively neutralizes the released infectious substance."
