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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

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### STANDARDIZATION OF EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

#### Transmitted by the International Technical Committee for the prevention and Extinction of Fire (CTIF)

CTIF recognises the difficulty in harmonizing information systems for first responders on a world-wide basis, but nevertheless believes that the harmonization of the rationale behind the different information systems for the support of emergency responders in the first phase of an incident involving dangerous goods can be achieved in an acceptable time frame.

CTIF has identified the following for further work:

1. Emergency response information systems shall deal with chemicals, which present physical and acute health hazards.
2. All future systems should convey the same core information.
3. All future systems should be based on the GHS classification. Thus the descriptions of the nature of the hazards need no further definitions.
4. The assignment of certain recommendations for response actions should be presented as a result of various decision diagrams. See example
  - a. GHS application of decision logic (Annex 1)
  - b. CTIF approach for the assignment of extinguishing media (Annex 2)
5. An information system should provide advice on the following topics:
  - a. Extinguishing media
  - b. Protective clothing appropriate for fire or spill situations
  - c. Appropriate handling of spilled products
  - d. Specific hazards compromising the safety of responders, e.g. reactivity of materials
  - e. Protection of the public
6. The most appropriate way (guidebooks or coded systems) to convey this information to the end users may be different in the various regions of the world. It could therefore be left to the discretion of the regional settings as to which system they use and regularly update (as required).

CTIF considers the following organisations to have special experience with providing information for emergency responders in written format :

- International Union of Railways (UIC/IUR) who have long lasting experience in the design and use of the Hazard Identification Number used in the ADR and RID settings mainly in the European Region but also in Brazil and Thailand.
- CANUTEC (Canada) and US (DOT) who are responsible for drafting the Emergency Response Guidebook which is mainly used in North America but has also been translated into other languages.
- CEFIC who has developed the ERICard-system which is based on the Hazard Identification Code and the Emergency Action Code

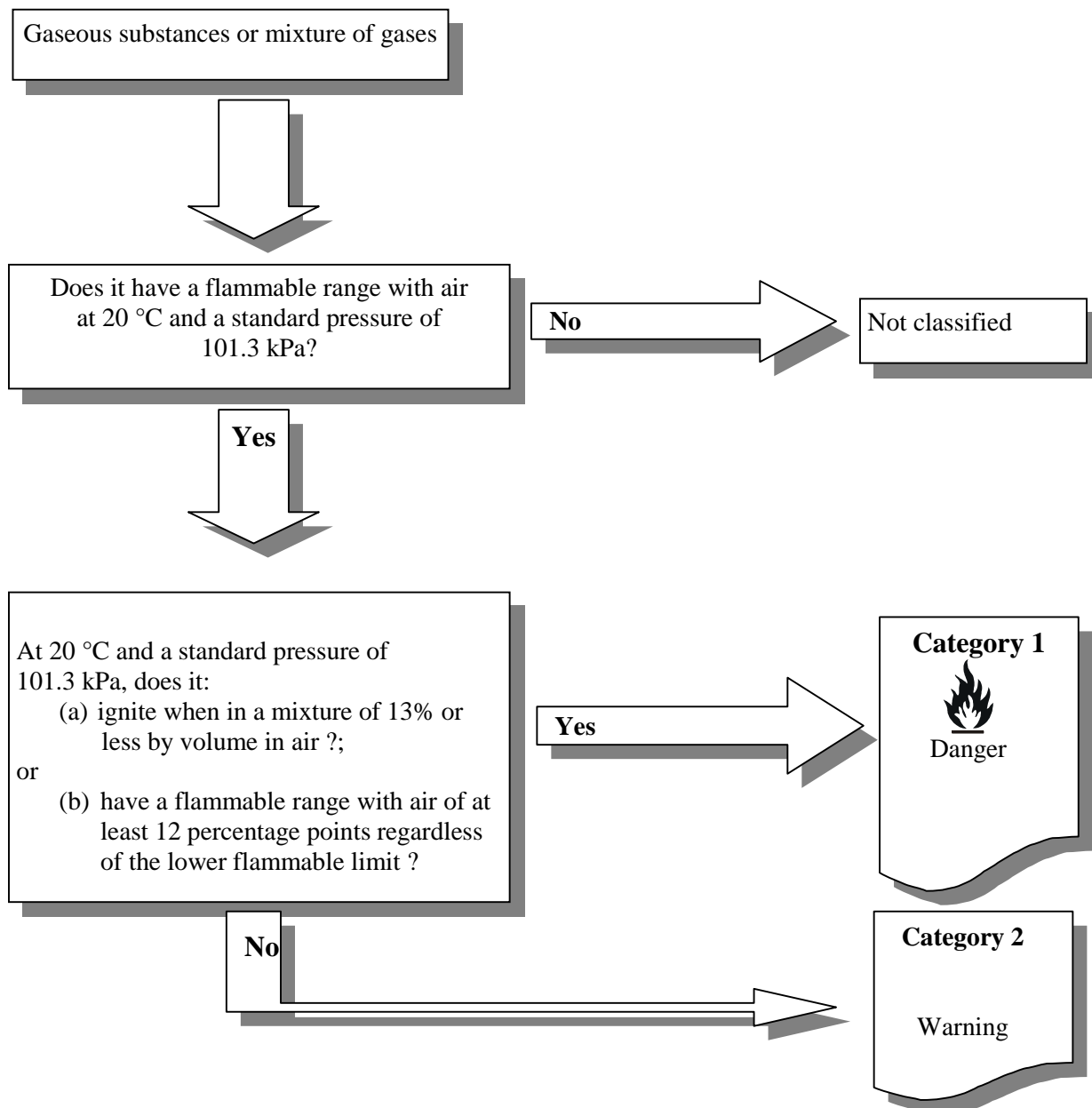
CTIF, who place a special emphasize on protective clothing advice, will continue to further develop this systematic approach within this biennium and would welcome the participation of other interested organisations or comments on the systematic approach.

**Annex 1**

*Decision logic*<sup>1</sup>

To classify a flammable gas, data on its flammability are required. The classification is according to the following decision logic.

*Decision logic for flammable gases*



<sup>1</sup> Extract from ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2002/16/Add.2.

### WHICH FIRE FIGHTING MEDIUM ?

