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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-fifth session, 5-14 July 2004  
Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda

EXPLOSIVES, SELF-REACTIVE SUBSTANCES AND ORGANIC PEROXIDES

Classification criteria for fireworks

Firework classification table, proposed amendments

Transmitted by the expert from Australia

**1. Alter the name of the table from “Default table” to “Firework classification table”**

In determining a transport classification for an explosive, providing the substance or article is safe for transport, the starting point or “default” classification should be regarded as Hazard Division 1.1.

For a competent authority to assign a Hazard Division less stringent than 1.1 the proponent must demonstrate that:

- a) test series 6 has been done and a different hazard Division is warranted, or
- b) for a firework the article can be assigned a different classification based on the firework classification table.

Proposal:

Alter the table name and the references to “default table” in clauses 2.1.3.5.2, and 2.1.3.5.6 and the reference to “default list” in 2.1.3.5.4 to “Firework classification table”.

**2. Determine the maximum size of the transport package to which the firework classification table applies**

The classification of an explosive applies to the substance or article as packaged for transport, an unpackaged article as such has no transport classification.

The maximum mass of contents contained within the fibreboard box, to which the firework classification table can be applied must be stated. If not stated it becomes the 4G maximum of 400 kg. Packages of firework are often bulky and light, however this is not always so, some articles such as individual crackers can be densely packed and packages can weigh up to 38 kg. It is therefore preferable to set the size for application of the Table, conservatively. A common package size for many fireworks is 15 kg.

Proposal:

Add at the end of clause 2.1.3.5.6, “of maximum net content 15 kg.”; and

Add a new clause:

“2.1.3.5.7 For amendment of the firework classification table to allow application to a firework package with a net content greater than 15 kg, evidence must be provided that such a package has been tested in accordance with test series 6, to the satisfaction of the UN Sub-Committee on the Transport of Dangerous Goods.”

**3. Firework classification table, heading to column 4**

Column 4 contains a variety of information specifying to which firework a particular classification applies. It contains: firework type such as report and colour shell; dimensions in mm; mass in kg; percentages of components, etc.

A more inclusive term is needed than “Calibre/Mass”.

Proposal:

Alter the column heading to “Specification”; and

Delete the second line under “shell” referring to “cylindrical shell”; and

Add the following note to the table:

“**NOTE 3:** Dimensions in mm refers to:

- for a Shell, the greater of the diameter of the Shell or the length of the Shell,
  - for a Roman Candle, Shot Tube firework or Mine the inside diameter of the tube comprising or containing the firework,
  - for a Bag Mine or Cylinder Mine, the inside diameter of the mortar intended to contain the mine.”
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