
**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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Agenda Item 10

STANDARDIZATION OF EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

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

It was reported at the December 2003 meeting that CTIF had recognised the difficulty in harmonizing information systems for first responders on a world-wide basis, but nevertheless believed that it could work towards harmonizing the rationale behind the different information systems for the support of emergency responders in the first phase of an incident involving dangerous goods.

The Sub-Committee had accepted to include this work in its programme for the current biennium on condition that the work would be based upon the Emergency Response Guidebook. CTIF were therefore invited to pursue this work together with interested experts and organisations in order to be able to submit concrete proposals for consideration by the Sub-Committee.

Since the December 2003 meeting, CTIF has engaged with Transport Canada / CANUTEC - (acting on behalf of those who have prepared the Emergency Response Guidebook) and are currently checking the possibility for harmonization. This is not a straightforward task because, in a number of cases, a single UN numbered substance may require different intervention actions e.g. because it is carried in more than one physical state.

Both CTIF and CANUTEC are keen to pursue this phase of the work and dialogue is continuing.

These organisations will however require more time to analyse the data and various approaches.

In view of the positive progress, CTIF will continue to keep the Sub-Committee informed of developments.
