

## 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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Item 6 of the provisional agenda

### LISTING, CLASSIFICATION AND PACKING

#### Infectious substances

#### Proposed transport of UN 3373 in portable tanks

#### Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom

### Background and Justification

1. The expert from the United Kingdom notes that the current regulations for the international transport of dangerous goods in Europe by rail (RID) and road (ADR), see 2003 editions, provide for the carriage of infectious substances of risk group 2 in tanks, in particular for the carriage of blood from abattoirs for the manufacture of fertilisers and for the preparation of certain pharmaceutical products.
2. With the introduction of the new provisions for Class 6.2 in the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the UN Model Regulations, it was felt that Category B may be carried in tanks but that Category A should not be allowed. Currently the only appropriate UN number to assign is UN 3373, which has a proper shipping name, DIAGNOSTIC SPECIMENS or CLINICAL SPECIMENS. This hardly seems appropriate for a substance being carried in tanks.
3. For the 2005 editions of RID and ADR a temporary solution was found to add tank provisions to UN 3373 including a new special provision TU 37 as follows:  

**"TU 37** Carriage in tanks is limited to substances containing pathogens which are unlikely to be a serious hazard, and for which, while capable of causing serious infection on exposure, effective treatment and preventative measures are available and the risk of spread of infection is limited (i.e. moderate individual risk and low community risk)."
4. The expert from the United Kingdom therefore believes that there is a need to assign portable tank provisions for UN 3373, to cater for the transport of blood from abattoirs that is used to make fertilizer and other applications. The expert from the United Kingdom therefore makes the following proposals:

## 5. **Proposal 1**

Against UN 3373 in the dangerous goods list, add "T2" to column (10) and "TP1" to column (11).

Consequential amendment: Add a new 4.2.1.15 in Chapter 4.2 as follows:

**"4.2.1.15** Additional provisions applicable to the transport of Division 6.2 substances in portable tanks [reserved]"

and renumber current 4.2.1.15 to 4.2.1.18 inclusive.

## 5. **Proposal 2**

The current proper shipping name for UN 3373 "DIAGNOSTIC SPECIMENS" or "CLINICAL SPECIMENS" is inappropriate for the quantities involved in tank transport.

Bearing in mind the wider context it is proposed that the PSN be changed to either "BIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCES" or to "INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCE, CATEGORY B".

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