

**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-eighth session
Geneva, 28 November – 7 December 2005
Item 3(c) of the provisional agenda

PACKAGES (INCLUDING IBCs AND LARGE PACKAGES)

Secondary means of closure on bottom openings on IBCs

Transmitted by the expert from Australia

SCOPE

This proposal aims to recommend changes to section 6.5.3.1.8 and the adoption of new text at 6.5.3.1.9 to address securing of the secondary means of closure on IBCs carrying liquids.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

ST/SCETDG/28/INF xx – Report of the IBC Working Group

Introduction

1. As noted in the report of the IBC Working Group issues relating to the loss of secondary means of closure were identified as a contributing cause of some incidents involving the leakage of dangerous goods. A common problem identified was that preventable spills have occurred where valves were knocked, vibrated loose or suffered leaks due to other causes or the secondary closure was not fitted. This is usually because it is not an integral part of the closure arrangement and can be mislaid. It was agreed at the IBC Working Group that some measures are needed to address this issue to ensure that the secondary means of closure remains attached to the IBC by some mechanism.

Proposal

2. To address this issue Australia recommends that section 6.5.3.1.8 be amended to delete the last sentence. The deleted text should then be incorporated in a new section 6.5.3.1.9 to address the requirements for valves used on IBCs containing liquids:

“6.5.3.1.9. Where a bottom discharge valve is fitted on IBCs containing liquids, in addition to the requirements of 6.5.3.1.8, a secondary means of sealing the discharge aperture shall also be provided, such as by a blank flange or equivalent device. Where this device is not an integral part of the closure and can be removed from the IBC it is to be secured to the IBC by means of a lanyard or some other mechanism. Where the secondary means of sealing is missing or inoperable the IBC shall not be used for liquids.”