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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-ninth session
Geneva, 3-12 (a.m.) July 2006
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

TRANSPORT OF GASES

Filling Ratio for Germane

Transmitted by the expert from the United States of America

Introduction

1. After the initial development of the P200 filling ratios, the expert from the United States of America commissioned an independent study with the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to verify that the listed P200 filling ratio values provided an adequate level of safety. Based on the results of this study and the work of the gases working group, at its 28th session the Sub-Committee agreed to lower the filling ratios for eleven gases (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2005/55). However, it was agreed that the filling ratio for Germane may need to be decreased even further, based on the potential for exothermic decomposition of the gas. In order to address these concerns, a filling ratio of 0.063 is proposed for Germane. This filling ratio is significantly lower than the previously proposed ratio of 1.00 that was presented at 28th session of the Sub-Committee. The 0.063 ratio is a conservative value that is consistent with current voluntary industry practice – it is 2/3 of the ratio deemed safe by an independent study which determined that the maximum filling ratio of Germane in light of its potential to decompose should be 0.096 for a 250 bar test pressure cylinder.

Proposal

2. In P200, Table 2, amend the filling ratio for Germane, UN 2192, to read “0.063”.
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