

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

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DOCUMENT ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2007/14

Comments transmitted by the Government of Belgium

Introduction

Belgium agrees with the principle of the French proposal, contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2007/14. Some editorial improvement of the proposed texts is however possible.

Proposals

1. Lithium batteries contained in equipment fall under the proper shipping name *Battery-powered equipment* of UN 3171. The only reason why they are not to be classified there is the fact that they have their own, more specific, UN number (UN 3091). To avoid mistakes by oversight, Belgium proposes to add in the dangerous goods list of chapter 3.2 the following text in column (2) for this UN number : “(for equipment powered by Lithium batteries, see UN 3091)”.

2. For the exemptions contained in 1.1.3.X (a) and (b) of the French proposal, it would be better to copy as much as possible the already existing provisions for the comparable exemptions in 1.1.3.2 (a) and 1.1.3.3 (a), concerning gases and fuel destined for propulsion of the vehicle or the operation of its equipment. Belgium therefore proposes to replace the proposed paragraphs 1.1.3.X (a) and (b) with :

“1.1.3.X The provisions laid down in RID/ADR do not apply to :

- (a) Lithium batteries installed in a train/vehicle, performing a transport operation and destined for its propulsion or for the operation of any of its equipment ; “

3. The proposed text of 1.1.3.X (c) is too restrictive. The equipment that is envisaged here is not necessarily transported as part of the use of the vehicle. It is proposed to use the following, more general wording :

- (b) Lithium batteries for the operation of equipment used during transport (e.g. a laptop computer).
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