



Secretariat

Distr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2009/31
1^{er} September 2009

Original: ENGLISH

**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

Thirty-sixth session
Geneva, 30 November – 9 December 2009
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

ELECTRIC STORAGE SYSTEMS

Revision of Packing Instruction 903

Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom¹

1. The Sub-Committee will recall that the expert from the United Kingdom presented ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2009/9 during the June 2009 session. This paper drew on the work carried out by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) dangerous goods panel in developing separate packing instructions which would differentiate between batteries and cells, batteries and cells packed with equipment and batteries and cells packed in equipment, see ICAO packing instructions 965-970.

2. These new ICAO packing instructions made the clear distinction that batteries and cells contained in equipment or batteries and cells packed with equipment do not have to be UN tested but batteries and cells by themselves had to undergo the full rigour of UN testing. The United Kingdom argued that the current P903 in the Model Regulations did not make this clear distinction and his paper put forward amendments to this packing instruction to reflect this difference.

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2009-2010 approved by the Committee at its fourth session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/68, para. 118 (c) and ST/SG/AC.10/36, para. 14).

3. When he presented his paper the expert from the United Kingdom made it clear that the proposals which it contained should be regarded as in draft as there were further changes made at the recent ICAO panel meeting in May. The revised packing instruction below takes into account these new developments as well as comments by the Dangerous Goods Advisory Council (DGAC) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA). The expert from the United Kingdom asks that the Sub-Committee consider and agree these revised proposals.

P903	PACKING INSTRUCTION	P903
<p>This instruction applies to UN Nos. 3090, 3091, 3480 and 3481.</p>		
<p>The following packagings are authorized, provided that the general provisions of 4.1.1 and 4.1.3 are met:</p> <p>(1) For UN 3090 and 3480:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) Packagings</p> <p>Drums (1A2, 1B2, 1N2, 1H2, 1D, 1G);</p> <p>Jerricans (3A2, 3B2, 3H2);</p> <p>Boxes (4A, 4B, 4C1, 4C2, 4D, 4F, 4G, 4H2)</p> <p>Packagings shall conform to the packing group II performance level.</p> <p>Cells and batteries shall be packed in packagings so that the cells and batteries are protected against damage that may be caused by the movement or placement of the cells or batteries within the packaging.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) Batteries exceeding 12kg gross mass</p> <p>Batteries or cells of a gross mass of 12kg or more, employing a strong, impact resistant outer casing, and assemblies of such batteries or cells, may be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="padding-left: 80px;">(i) packed in strong outer packagings, in protective enclosures (e.g., in fully enclosed or wooden slatted crates); or <li style="padding-left: 80px;">(ii) unpackaged on pallets or other handling devices <p>Batteries or cells shall be secured to prevent inadvertent movement, and the terminals shall not support the weight of other superimposed elements. Packagings need not meet the requirements of 4.1.1.3</p> <p>(2) For UN 3091 and 3481</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) Cells or batteries packed with equipment</p> <p>When batteries or cells are packed together with equipment, they shall be packed in packagings as permitted for UN 3090 and 3480.</p> <p>The packagings containing the cells and batteries shall conform to the packing requirements in part 1(a) of this packing instruction</p> <p>Cells and batteries shall be packed in packagings so that the cells and batteries are protected against damage that may be caused by the movement or placement of the cells or batteries within the packaging.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) Cells or batteries contained in equipment</p> <p>When cells and batteries are contained in equipment, the equipment shall be packed in strong outer packagings in such a manner as to prevent accidental operation during transport. Packagings for batteries or cells contained in equipment need not meet the requirements of 4.1.1.3.</p>		
<p>Additional requirement:</p> <p>Cells and batteries shall be protected so as to prevent short circuits. This includes protection against contact with conductive materials within the same packaging that could lead to a short circuit.</p>		