

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

22 June 2012

Forty-first session

Geneva, 25 June – 4 July 2012

Item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda

Listing, classification and packing: miscellaneous

Assignment of fire extinguishers to UN No. 1044

Transmitted by the expert from Germany

Document relating to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2012/44 and UN/SCETDG/41/Inf.7

Introduction

1. Germany had initiated a discussion of the Joint Meeting RID/ADR/ADN in March 2012 on questions on the classification of fire extinguishers of UN 1044 and on related packaging and transport problems (see report ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/126 §§ 18 and 19).
2. As first consequence, the Expert from Germany submitted documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2012/44 and UN/SCETDG/41/Inf.7 to the Sub Committee.
3. The Working Group, mentioned in § 19 of the report of the Joint Meeting RID/ADR/ADN, met on 13th of June in Bonn (Germany) and discussed the question of classification and related issues. It was agreed, that the Expert from Germany shall submit an additional Inf. Paper to the Sub Committee to further support the discussion and to propose the following draft principles:
 - a) UN Number 1044 should be used for all transportable and movable fire extinguishers transported for fire extinguishing purposes whether being a completed fire extinguisher on its own or a part or spare part for installation in local fire extinguishing equipment; it should not be used for transport of gas cylinders installed in frames for installation in local fire extinguishing equipment, such cylinders should be transported as required for the gas contained, e.g. CO₂ or N₂;
 - b) The group identified groups of fire extinguishers which are handled and transported differently and require different packaging provisions – including some types of being transported unpackaged – as follows:
 1. Portable fire extinguishers for manual handling and operation, transported packaged or with suitable means of protection for valves and other equipment mounted on the fire extinguisher;
 2. Fire extinguishers mounted on wheels for manual handling, transported packaged or unpacked with suitable means of protection for valves and other equipment mounted on the fire extinguisher;

3. Fire extinguishing equipment/machinery mounted on wheels or wheeled platforms transported unpacked and similar to (small) trailers;
 4. Fire extinguishers composed of a non-rollable pressure drum and equipment, transported unpacked and handled e.g. by fork lift or crane when loaded or unloaded.
- c) Fire extinguishers should be manufactured, tested, approved and labelled according to the provisions of the country of manufacture; nevertheless on the European level there are applicable standards (EN 3 and EN 1566).
4. The Sub Committee is invited to discuss these principles and decide as appropriate. The Expert from Germany offers to submit a formal proposal for adoption for the next session of the Sub Committee. However, a first draft of such a proposal can be found in the annex.

Annex to UN/SCETDG/41/Inf.xx

Draft proposal

Amend the entry for UN 1044 to read

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7a)	(7b)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
1044	FIRE EXTINGUISHER with compressed or liquefied gas, portable for manual handling	2.2			225	120ml	E0	P003	PPxx			
1044	FIRE EXTINGUISHER with compressed or liquefied gas, mounted on wheels or wheeled platforms/units	2.2			225	LQ0	E0	P003	PPyy			
1044	LARGE FIRE EXTINGUISHING EQUIPMENT with compressed or liquefied gas, mounted on wheels or a wheeled platform/unit	2.2			225	LQ0	E0	P003	PPzz			
1044	LARGE FIRE EXTINGUISHING EQUIPMENT with compressed or liquefied gas, composed of a pressure drum and equipment	2.2			225	LQ0	E0	P003	PPzz			

Amend SP 225 to read:

“225 Fire extinguishers under this entry may include installed actuating cartridges (cartridges, power device of Division 1.4C or 1.4S), without changing the classification of Division 2.2 provided the total quantity of deflagrating (propellant) explosives does not exceed 3.2 g per extinguishing unit. *Fire Extinguishers shall be manufactured, tested, approved and labelled according to the provisions of the country of manufacture. A copy of these provisions shall be provided by the manufacturer on request of the competent authority of the country of use. Fire extinguishers under this entry comprise:*

1. Portable fire extinguishers for manual handling and operation, transported packaged or with suitable means of protection for valves and other equipment mounted on the fire extinguisher;
2. Fire extinguishers mounted on wheels for manual handling, transported packaged or unpacked with suitable means of protection for valves and other equipment mounted on the fire extinguisher;
3. Fire extinguishing equipment/machinery mounted on wheels or wheeled platforms/units transported unpacked and similar to (small) trailers;
4. Fire extinguishers composed of a non-rollable pressure drum and equipment, transported unpacked and handled e.g. by fork lift or crane when loaded or unloaded”

Add new PPxx, PPy and PPzz to read:

“PPxx The provisions of 4.1.6.1.8 shall be applied.

PPy The provisions of 4.1.6.8 shall be applied. Fire extinguishers of this entry may be transported unpacked if the requirements of 4.1.3.8 (a) to (e) are met.

PPzz The provisions of 4.1.6.1.8 (b), (c) or (d) shall be applied. Fire extinguishers of this entry may be transported unpacked if the requirements of 4.1.3.8 (a) to (e) are met.”

Assign PPxx, PPy and PPzz to UN 1044 as shown in the table above.
