



**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****Forty-fifth session**

Geneva, 23 June – 2 July 2014

Item 7 (g) of the provisional agenda

**Miscellaneous proposals for amendments to the Model Regulations
on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: packagings****Leakproofness testing procedures****Transmitted by the expert from Sweden¹****Background**

1. At the previous sessions of the Sub-Committee, the expert of Sweden has raised issues concerning inspection and testing of packagings and IBCs in accordance with paragraphs 6.1.1.3 and 6.5.4.4. In December 2013 Sweden presented the result of a survey containing a number of questions relating to testing procedures (see informal documents submitted to the 44th session INF.18 + INF.18/Add.1 and INF.18/Add.2). Even though it was difficult to draw straightforward conclusions from the answers, the result from this survey indicated that applied test methods, test pressures and durations varied considerably depending on for example properties of packagings and IBCs, and production rate.

2. The outcome of the discussion on the Swedish documents (see paragraph 74-75 in the report ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/88), was that several delegations felt that this issue did not really present any safety problems and therefore further work was not considered necessary.

3. Bearing in mind the results of the survey and the discussion at the last meeting, the expert from Sweden believes that it would be appropriate to amend 6.1.1.3 and 6.5.4.4.2 and to delete the reference to the leakproofness test used during type approval (6.1.5.4.3 and 6.5.6.7.3). Sweden is of the opinion that it is sufficient to state that a leakproofness test should be carried out before the first use and during the periodic inspection of IBCs, since

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2013-2014 approved by the Committee at its sixth session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/84, para. 86 and ST/SG/AC.10/40, para. 14).

hardly any of these tests are being performed in accordance with the leakproofness test procedures stated in 6.5.6.7.3. For packagings, we also believe it is adequate to state that a leakproofness test should be performed before first use, remanufacturing and reconditioning without referencing to the leakproofness test procedures in 6.1.5.4.3.

Proposal

4. In the first paragraph in 4.1.1.12, delete the reference to 6.1.5.4.3 and amend the first sentence as follows:

“4.1.1.12 Every packaging as specified in Chapter 6.1 intended to contain liquids shall successfully undergo a suitable leakproofness test, ~~and be capable of meeting the appropriate test level indicated in 6.1.5.4.3:...~~”

The rest of the sub-section remains unchanged.

5. In the first paragraph in 6.1.1.3 delete the reference to 6.1.5.4.3 and amend the first sentence as follows:

“6.1.1.3 Every packaging intended to contain liquids shall successfully undergo a suitable leakproofness test, ~~and be capable of meeting the appropriate test level indicated in 6.1.5.4.3.~~”

The rest of the sub-section remains unchanged.

6. In the first paragraph in 6.5.4.4.2 delete the reference to 6.5.6.7.3 and amend the first sentence as follows:

“6.5.4.4.2 Every metal, rigid plastics and composite IBC for liquids, or for solids which are filled or discharged under pressure, shall undergo a suitable leakproofness test ~~at least equally effective as the test prescribed in 6.5.6.7.3 and be capable of meeting the test level indicated in 6.5.6.7.3.~~”

The rest of the sub-section remains unchanged.
