

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

27 November 2014

Forty-sixth session

Geneva, 1-9 December 2014

Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda

**Recommendations made by the Sub-Committee on its forty-third,
forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions and pending issues: listing, classification and packing**

Comments on paragraphs 5 and 8 of the working document SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/88 “Fuels in engines and machinery” submitted by the expert from Belgium.

**Submitted by the European Association for Advanced Rechargeable
Batteries (RECHARGE)**

Introduction

1. The expert of Belgium is proposing in the working document ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/88, a comprehensive argumentation to accomplish the revision of the Model Regulations with regards to fuels in engines and machinery.

On the basis of the comments received during several working group meetings, among others, Belgium is proposing in § 5 and § 8, modifications respectively to SP 312 and SP240 (second paragraph).

Item 1

2. In paragraph 8, of the WP SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/88, examples are listed for electric vehicles covered by the Special Provision 240.

Although it is indicated in the text of the Special Provision 240 that this list is not exhaustive, such a list of examples clarifies for the shippers the type of vehicle covered by Special Provision 240 and indirectly by UN 3171.

3. A comparison of the changes proposed by Belgium to the current text is illustrated in the comparative Table 1 below (Annex 1).

4. During the 44th session of the UN Sub-Committee, the issue of the definition of e-bikes under SP240 was raised by IATA, in the working paper ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2013/59.

5. During the same session, RECHARGE informed the Sub-Committee, via the INF paper UN/SCETDG/44/INF.24, that currently the EU Legislation regulates the approval of certain types of pedal cycles with an electric motor and E-motor vehicles. In particular, pedal cycles powered by an electric motor beyond 25 km/h and/or of a maximum continuous rated power superior to 250W are of the type approved for road circulation.

6. Under these conditions it does not seem advisable to remove the reference to E-bikes in SP240. Rather RECHARGE would like to propose to maintain the reference to two-wheeled vehicles as they are defined in the European legislation:

“bicycles (pedal cycles with an electric motor), and other vehicles of this type (e.g. self-balancing vehicles or vehicles not equipped with at least one seating position)”

7. Such a definition is also bringing the attention of the shipper to the fact that a whole range of battery powered vehicles are covered by the Dangerous Goods Regulation and therefore their batteries have to be transported accordingly.

8. RECHARGE is suggesting to use the wording presented in the column 3 of Table 1 below if any modification is proposed for SP 240. It contains the suggestions made by Belgium in WP SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/88 and an improvement of the definitions of battery powered 2-wheel vehicles.

Item 2

9. In paragraph 5 of the WP SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/88, one addendum is proposed to the Special Provision 312. It concerns lithium batteries used in the vehicles described in SP312, typically, Hybrid Electric Vehicle powered by a Lithium battery. The proposed addendum is the following:

Lithium batteries shall meet the requirements of 2.9.4, except when otherwise specified by these Regulations.

10. It appears that this statement is misleading as it is addressing in SP312 only Hybrid Electric Vehicles powered by a Lithium battery and it has no equivalent in SP240.

11. In addition in § 5 of WP SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/88, there is no reference to SP310 which is allowing the transport of prototypes batteries and pre-production runs of lithium batteries without being subject to the testing requirements for such batteries.

Conclusions

12. RECHARGE would like to suggest the following proposals for changes in § 8 and § 5 of the proposal from the expert from Belgium.

Proposal 1

New wording for § 2 of SP 240: examples of battery powered vehicles.

Examples of such vehicles are electrically-powered cars, motorcycles, scooters, three- and four-wheeled vehicles or motorcycles, scooters, trucks, locomotives, bicycles (pedal cycles with an electric motor), and other vehicles of this type (e.g. self-balancing vehicles

or vehicles not equipped with at least one seating position), wheel chairs, lawn tractors, self-propelled farming and construction equipment, boats and aircraft.

Proposal 2

Delete the new wording (last sentence) proposed for SP312 in the Working Paper WP SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/88.

Annex 1

Table 1 Comparison of the proposals for changes in SP 240.

(1) Current Text	(2) Belgium Proposal in SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/88	(3) Recharge's Proposal
<p>For the purpose of this special provision, vehicles are self-propelled apparatus designed to carry one or more persons or goods.</p> <p>“Examples of such vehicles are electrically-powered cars, motorcycles, scooters, three- and four-wheeled vehicles or motorcycles, e bikes, wheel-chairs, lawn tractors, boats and aircraft.”</p> <p>Examples of equipment are lawnmowers, cleaning machines or model boats and model aircraft.</p>	<p>For the purpose of this special provision, vehicles are self-propelled apparatus designed to carry one or more persons or goods.</p> <p>“Examples of such vehicles are electrically-powered cars, motorcycles, scooters, <u>trucks</u>, <u>locomotives</u>, <u>scooters</u>, three- and four-wheeled vehicles or motorcycles, e-bikes, wheelchairs, lawn tractors, <u>self-propelled farming and construction equipment</u>, boats and aircraft.”</p> <p>Examples of equipment are lawnmowers, cleaning machines or model boats and model aircraft.</p>	<p>For the purpose of this special provision, vehicles are self-propelled apparatus designed to carry one or more persons or goods.</p> <p>Examples of such vehicles are electrically-powered cars, motorcycles, scooters, three- and four-wheeled vehicles or motorcycles, scooters, <u>trucks</u>, <u>locomotives</u>, <u>bicycles (pedal cycles with an electric motor)</u>, and other <i>vehicles of this type (e.g. self-balancing vehicles or vehicles not equipped with at least one seating position)</i>, wheel chairs, lawn tractors, <u>self-propelled farming and construction equipment</u>, boats and aircraft.</p> <p>Examples of equipment are lawnmowers, cleaning machines or model boats and model aircraft.</p>