



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-eighth session

Geneva, 30 November-9 December 2015

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Listing, classification and packing

Carriage of toxic metal powders

Submitted by the expert from France¹

Summary

Executive summary: This paper proposes that the Sub-Committee should introduce new entries into the UN Recommendations to allow the proper classification and transport of metal powders with primary risk 6.1 and subsidiary risk 4.1.

Related documents: Informal document INF.34 (forty-seventh session)
ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/94 (final report of the forty-seventh session), para. 77
IMO Documents: CCC 1/6/12, CCC 1/13 (paras. 6.25 and 6.26), E&T 23/INF.3, CCC 2/6 (paras. 3.30 to 3.32), CCC 2/INF.24

Related documents: Paragraph 9 and Annex

Background

1. The background documents, the oldest of which (OMI CCC 1/6/12) dates from September 2014, highlight the existence of metal powders with primary risk 6.1 (PG I and PG II) and subsidiary risk 4.1, substances for which there is currently no appropriate entry.

2. Informal document INF.34 (forty-seventh session), submitted to the forty-seventh session of the Sub-Committee in June 2015, contained annexes showing safety data sheets illustrating that fact for the case of cobalt powder.

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2015-2016 approved by the Committee at its seventh session (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/92, paragraph 95 and ST/SG/AC.10/42, para. 15).



Proposal

3. A first proposal to introduce new entries was appended to informal document INF.34 (forty-seventh session); some delegations wished to have a little more time to check whether the new entries were really needed, as mentioned in paragraph 77 of the report, ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/94.

4. In the present document, the expert from France, responding to a request from the Sub-Committee, submits an official proposal for the new entries to be included in the United Nations Recommendations in order to allow such substances to be transported in complete safety. The proposal is attached in the annex.

5. It should be noted that, for the carriage of metal powders with primary risk 4.1 (PG II or PG III) and subsidiary risk 6.1, the Editing and Technical Group of the International Maritime Organization Sub-Committee on Carriage of Cargoes and Containers considered that the existing UN No. 3179 was the most appropriate entry, on the condition that special provision 915, specifically maritime, be deleted from the IMDG Code (see document CCC 2/6, paras. 3.30 to 3.32).

6. During the forty-seventh session of the Sub-Committee in June 2015, a majority of delegations expressed a preference for as general as possible a proper shipping name (solid or solid, inorganic), rather than a more restrictive proper shipping name (metal powder).

7. Such an approach would also have the advantage of establishing a full parallel with the existing entries under UN No. 3124 (6.1, (4.2), PG I or PG II) and UN No. 3125 (6.1, (4.3), PG I or PG II).

8. The conditions of carriage allocated to the proposed new entries are similar in all aspects to those of the existing entries UN No. 3124 (6.1, (4.2), PG I or PG II) and UN No. 3125 (6.1, (4.3), PG I or PG II), which have similar properties.

Follow-up

9. The Sub-Committee is requested to consider and comment on the proposals in the annex and to take the action it deems appropriate.

Annex

Proposed amendments to the United Nations Recommendations

Insert the following entries into the Dangerous Goods List

UN No.	Name and description	Class or division	Subsidiary risk	Packing group	Special provisions	Limited and excepted quantities		Packagings and IBCs		Portable tank and bulk containers	
						(7a)	(7b)	Packing instructions	Special provisions	Instructions	Special provisions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7a)	(7b)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
-	3.1.2	2.0	2.0	2.0.1.3	3.3	3.4	3.5	4.1.4	4.1.4	4.2.5/4.3.2	4.2.5
35xx	TOXIC SOLID, FLAMMABLE [INORGANIC], N.O.S. [METAL POWDER, TOXIC, FLAMMABLE, N.O.S.]	6.1	4.1	I	274	0	E5	P00	PP31	T6	TP33
								IBC99	-		
35yy	TOXIC SOLID, FLAMMABLE [INORGANIC], N.O.S. [METAL POWDER, TOXIC, FLAMMABLE, N.O.S.]	6.1	4.1	II	274	500 g	E4	P002	PP31	T3	TP33
								IBC08	B2, B3, B4		