

## 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

10 June 2015

### Forty-seventh session

Geneva, 22 – 26 June 2015

Item 5 (a) of the provisional agenda

Transport of gases: global recognition of UN and non-UN pressure receptacles

## Working group on global recognition of UN and non-UN pressure receptacles

Transmitted by the Compressed Gas Association (CGA)

### Background

1. During the forty-fourth session held in November/December 2013, as noted in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/88, paragraphs 33 to 35, the Sub-Committee accepted the following regarding work on global recognition of UN and non-UN pressure receptacles:

- “(a) It was possible that the solution might not be found in the framework of the Model Regulations and that it might instead fall within the remit of national or regional regulations or other instruments;
- (b) The aim of the intersessional correspondence work should be to facilitate discussions and draw up recommendations that might have to be implemented or followed up outside of the framework of the Sub-Committee;
- (c) The short-term objectives were the following:
  - (i) To enhance recognition of UN pressure receptacles;
  - (ii) To allow for the import/export not only of UN pressure receptacles but also of filled ‘non-UN’ pressure receptacles, bearing in mind that pressure receptacles have a long service life (approximately 50 years) (the terms ‘import/export’ referring here to international transport, not international trade);
  - (iii) To enhance recognition of pressure receptacles containing solids or liquids.”

2. In the discussions held during the forty-fifth session in June/July 2014, as reported in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2014/106, paragraph 3, the working group agreed to focus first on the two objectives described in (c)(i) and (c)(ii) in paragraph 1 above.

3. The working group met during a lunchtime session during the forty-sixth session in December 2014, and the Sub-Committee endorsed the following conclusions from that working group discussion, summarised in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/92, paragraph 39:

- Work on this issue will continue over the 2015-2016 biennium.
- It was agreed that the working group will further focus first on recognition of UN pressure receptacles. It was noted that, for UN pressure receptacles, the issues to be resolved primarily concern recognition of approvals. There are approval recognition issues surrounding manufacture and placing on the market,

as well as periodic inspection and test, of UN pressure receptacles. It was agreed first to address recognition of approvals for manufacture including placing on the market.

- Currently, there is recognition of manufacturing approvals for UN pressure receptacles at the regional level, for instance between the United States of America and Canada or between European countries. It was recognised that additional regional agreements might be necessary to further recognition.

## Discussion

4. The following next steps were agreed during the forty-sixth session, as summarised in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/92, paragraph 39, to address recognition of approvals for manufacture, including placing on the market, of UN pressure receptacles:

(a) The representative from EIGA will provide detailed information on the approval process/system for manufacture of UN pressure receptacles in Europe, including references to the specific sections of the applicable regulatory instruments.

(b) The representative from CGA will provide the same information with respect to the United States of America and Canada.

(c) The experts from European Union member states will initiate a process to engage the Transportable Pressure Equipment Directive Administrative Cooperation Group (TPED ADCO) to explore possible future cooperation for the mutual recognition of UN pressure receptacles, for example with the United States of America and Canada. As chair of this group, the expert from Belgium agreed to present the issue to the next TPED ADCO session.

(d) The expert from the United States of America will explore the possibility of amending Title 49 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (49 CFR) to provide for further mutual recognition of manufacturing approvals for UN pressure receptacles with other countries such as European Union member states. The expert from Canada will do the same in respect of that country's *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations*.

5. It is proposed that the working group meet during a lunchtime session during this forty-seventh session, to discuss the status of the action items described in paragraph 4 above, to discuss any developments, and to agree on further next steps.

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