



**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-ninth session**

Geneva, 27 June – 6 July 2016

Item 2 (i) of the provisional agenda

Explosives and related matters: miscellaneous**Amendment to section 1.1.2 of the Manual of Tests and
Criteria****Transmitted by the Institute of Makers of Explosives (IME)¹****Introduction**

1. During the meeting of the Working Group on Explosives (EWG) at the 48th session of the TDG Sub-Committee, it was noted by the EWG² that a reference to “testing authority” in Section 1.1.2 of the Manual of Tests and Criteria (MTC), 6th revised edition, incorrectly implies that the testing authority has the responsibility for classification of dangerous goods. IME agreed to submit a proposal for the 49th session to correct this misconception.

Discussion

2. Working with the Chairman of the EWG to develop this proposal, it was noticed that a similar reference also appears in Appendix 6, paragraph 2.3 of the MTC; therefore, this proposal will address both references.

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).

² Informal document INF.53 (TDG, 48th session), para. 12.

3. For certain dangerous goods, the responsibility for classification lies with the offering party (manufacturer, distributor, exporter, end user, etc.) and in other instances (for example, Class 1 Explosives), that responsibility lies with the competent authority.
4. Testing bodies participate in the classification process by performing the appropriate tests and making classification recommendations based upon the results of those tests. To adequately execute their duties, testing bodies must be competent to perform classification tests and to make informed recommendations for classification based upon the results of those tests. Therefore, IME proposes to change the words “testing authority” to “testing body” and to remove references implying that testing authorities or bodies have the responsibility for classification of dangerous goods.

Proposal

5. Amend the second sentence of paragraph 1.1.2 of the MTC replacing the reference to “testing authority” with “testing body” and removing the reference to responsibility for classification as shown below:

“It therefore assumes competence on the part of the testing ~~authority~~ body ~~and leaves responsibility for classification with them.~~”.

6. Amend the second sentence of paragraph 2.3 of Appendix 6 of the MTC replacing the reference to “testing authority” with “testing body” and removing the reference to responsibility for classification as shown below:

“The remarks 1.1.2 from section 1 "General introduction" are emphasized that competence on the part of the testing ~~authority~~ body is assumed ~~and responsibility for classification is left with them.~~”.
