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**Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods  
and the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals****Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods****Forty-ninth session**

Geneva, June 27 – July 6, 2016

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

**Listing, classification and packing****Addition of a special provision to UN1945 – MATCHES,  
WAX ‘VESTA’****Transmitted by the expert from Canada<sup>1</sup>****Purpose**

1. To add special provision 293 to UN1945 – MATCHES, WAX “VESTA”.

**Introduction**

2. The Dangerous Goods List contains various entries for matches:
  - (a) UN1331 – MATCHES, ‘STRIKE ANYWHERE’;
  - (b) UN1944 – MATCHES, SAFETY (book, card or strike on box);
  - (c) UN1945 – MATCHES, WAX ‘VESTA’;
  - (d) UN2254 – MATCHES, FUSEE.
3. Special provision 293 is applied to UN1331, UN1944, and UN2254 but omitted from UN1945. The special provision reads (19<sup>th</sup> revised edition):

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<sup>1</sup> 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).

**293:** *The following definitions apply to matches:*

(a) *Fusee matches are matches the heads of which are prepared with a friction-sensitive igniter composition and a pyrotechnic composition that burns with little or no flame but with intense heat;*

(b) *Safety matches are combined with or attached to the box, book or card and that can be ignited by friction only on a prepared surface;*

(c) *Strike-anywhere matches are matches that can be ignited by friction on a solid surface; and*

(d) *Wax Vesta matches are matches that can be ignited by friction either on a prepared surface or on a solid surface.*

4. UN1945 does however apply special provision 294. Special provision 294 reads (19<sup>th</sup> revised edition):

**294:** *Safety matches and wax “Vesta” matches in outer packagings not exceeding 25 kg net mass are not subject to any other requirement (except marking) of these regulations when packed in accordance with packing instruction P407.*

## Context

5. Special provision 293 first appears in the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous goods, Model Regulations and does not appear to have been modified since its introduction.

6. The text of special provision 293 specifically gives definitions for fusee matches, safety matches, strike-anywhere matches, and wax Vesta matches. It is included in each of the relevant entries for these products (UN1331, UN1944, UN2254) but not for UN1945. The expert from Canada proposes to add special provision 293 to the entry for UN1945 to correct a probable oversight.

7. Sub-paragraph (b) of special provision 293 does not follow the same structure of the other clauses in special provision 293, which may be confusing in applying special provision 293. Sub-paragraphs (a), (c), and (d) all read in a similar fashion: “xxxx matches are matches...”, whereas sub-paragraph (b) reads: “safety matches are...”.

## Proposal

8. Add special provision 293 to the entry for UN1945 – MATCHES, WAX “VESTA” in the Dangerous Goods List.

1945	MATCHES, WAX ‘VESTA’	4.1		III	<u>293</u> 294	5 kg	E1	P407			
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9. Modify special provision 293 to read:

**293:** *The following definitions apply to matches:*

(a) *Fusee matches are matches the heads of which are prepared with a friction-sensitive igniter composition and a pyrotechnic composition that burns with little or no flame but with intense heat;*

- (b) Safety matches *are matches that* are combined with or attached to the box, book or card and that can be ignited by friction only on a prepared surface;
- (c) Strike-anywhere matches are matches that can be ignited by friction on a solid surface; and
- (d) Wax Vesta matches are matches that can be ignited by friction either on a prepared surface or on a solid surface.
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