
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

5 July 2017

Fifty-first session

Geneva, 3-7 July 2017

Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda

Electric storage systems: testing of lithium batteries

Lithium Battery Test Summary

Results of lunch time working group on the Lithium Battery Test Summary based on ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2017/27 (MDBTC) and INF.25 PRBA:

1. It was agreed that a test summary would not be required for lithium cells or batteries initially manufactured before 1 July 2003. On this basis 2.9.4(g) should be revised:

Proposal 1

Modify 2.9.4 to read as follows:

“Manufacturers and subsequent distributors of cells or batteries manufactured after July 1, 2003 shall make available a test summary as specified in the Manual of Tests and Criteria, Part III, sub-section 38.3, paragraph 38.3.5. “

2. It was recognized that preparing the test summary documents would take some significant time and resources especially for companies with many products. On this basis, it was agreed that the report of the Sub-Committee would include a recommendation to modal bodies (e.g. ICAO) and national governments to require the test summary only after January 1, 2020. It was noted that the IMDG code already provides a one year transition, the ADR provides a 6 month transition and the ICAO TI does not provide a transition. The working group members preferred a consistent transition for all modes. The ICAO secretariat indicated that this matter could be considered at the DGP meeting that is scheduled for later this year and potentially addressed in the 2019-2020 edition of the ICAO TI.

3. While some working group participants suggested that there should be a specific time frame for how long the test summary would need to be maintained and made available so that it was not infinite. However, there was not sufficient time to discuss this to conclusion. Those concerned with this were invited to submit a relevant proposal for the next session.

4. It was agreed that product manufacturers are not required to include information about the product in the test summary and that the test summary is primarily required for the cell or battery that may be installed in the product. The product manufacturer who installs or assembles a cell or battery in a product may identify themselves on the test summary and refer to the applicable information provided by the cell or battery manufacturer. It was agreed that for test summaries used for products that the product model must be indicated to align the product with the cell(s) or battery(ies) contained in the

product. In 38.3.5(f) it was agreed that the information required was only for cells and batteries not products. Consequently, the following modifications are proposed:

Proposal 2

Modify (f)(ii) to read:

“Mass of cell or battery”

Proposal 3

Modify f)(v) to read:

“Cell or battery model number. If the test summary is being used for a product containing a cell or battery then the product model number shall also be indicated.”

5. There was not sufficient time to address the questions and answers included in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2017/27 (MDBTC). However, based on the discussion and decisions taken MDBTC agreed to submit a revised list in a formal paper for the next meeting.
