Working Party on the transport of dangerous goods

Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

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TANKS FOR THE TRANSPORT OF UN 2426 AMMONIUM NITRATE, LIQUID

Information paper of Belgium

This information paper is intended for discussion in the tank working group, which is to meet in Bonn from the 11th of March onwards.

1. Introduction

In table A of chapter 3.2, tank code L4BV is indicated in column 12 for UN 2426 ammonium nitrate, liquid. The absence of a (+) means that paragraph 4.3.4.1.2 (rationalised approach and hierarchy of tanks) is applicable. According to this paragraph, no other tank codes are allowed and the group of permitted substances is limited to those of class 5.1, classification code O1.

This gives rise to difficulties, as there proves to be a need for the alternative use of these tanks for other substances (e.g. UN 2031 nitric acid of packing group II). The properties of the liquid ammonium nitrate are such that this alternative use is to be limited (no organic materials allowed, for instance), preferably by making it subject to the approval of the competent authority.

If a dedicated tank is prescribed for the transport of UN 2426, paragraph 4.3.4.1.3 is applicable instead of 4.3.4.1.2. This recently amended paragraph (cfr. TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/86/Add.2) refers to the design approval certificate for the substances allowed and solves the above-mentioned problem perfectly.

2. Proposals

- 2.1. Replace tank code L4BV by L4BV(+) in column (12) of table A in chapter 3.2.
- 2.2. Add "UN No. 2426 ammonium nitrate, liquid : code L4BV;" in 4.3.4.1.3 d).