

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Eighty-seventh session,
Geneva, 2-6 November 2009
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

INTERPRETATION OF ADR

Fire-fighting equipment

Transmitted by the Government of Poland

1. According to section 8.1.4 of ADR every transport unit shall be equipped with at least one portable fire extinguisher (for the inflammability classes A, B and C) with a minimum capacity of 2 kg dry powder. Additionally, depending on the maximum permissible mass of transport units, one or more portable fire extinguishers are required. For example, transport units of more than 7.5 tonnes shall be equipped with fire extinguishers with a minimum total capacity of 12 kg dry powder of which at least one shall have a minimum capacity of 6 kg. The capacity of the fire extinguisher(s) (2 kg) may be deducted from the capacity of the additional extinguisher(s) (12 kg). This leads to conclusion, that the requirement in question refers to the total capacity and not to the number of extinguishers.
 2. Polish Ministry of Infrastructure has been informed by an association of carriers, that on the territory of one of the Contracting Party to ADR there is a practice to require - in case of transport units of more than 7.5 tonnes – 3 extinguishers (namely 1 x 2 kg in the cabin and 2 x 6 kg outside). This practice in our opinion is not in line with the current provisions of ADR and should not be continued.
 3. The Government of Poland would like to know the position of the Working Party on this matter.
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