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Item 5 of the provisional agenda

Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (CTU Code)**Training programmes on the CTU Code****Note by the secretariat****I. Mandate**

1. This document is submitted in line with Cluster 6: Intermodal transport and logistics, paragraph 6.1 of the programme of work 2016–2017 (ECE/TRANS/2016/28/Add.1) adopted by the Inland Transport Committee at its seventy-eighth session on 26 February 2016.

2. At the fifty-eighth session of the Working Party, the secretariat informed delegates about the progress of work on the CTU Code. The current state of activities on the CTU Code were also shared with the Inland Transport Committee at its seventy-eighth session, where delegates asked the secretariat to explore how web-based training on the CTU Code could be launched within existing resources (ECE/TRANS/254, para. 107). The aim of this document is to present the training programmes that are already available on the CTU Code.

II. Training programmes: An overview

3. In 2014, ILO, IMO and UNECE jointly developed a new Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units,¹ known as the CTU Code. The code proposes guidelines on the safe packing of CTUs for both the packers and unpackers. Moreover, it explicitly recommends that “Personnel engaged in the packing of CTUs should be trained in the contents of this code commensurate with their responsibilities.” (Chapter 13. Training in packing the CTU).

¹ A CTU refers to a freight container, swap body, vehicle, railway wagon or any other similar unit, in particular, when used in intermodal transport.

4. Several organizations around the world, in response, now offer extensive training programmes to improve the expertise of shippers, consolidators, packers, handlers and any other body willing to learn how best to pack and handle containers. To identify the main courses available, the secretariat initiated an internet search looking for such key words as “CTU Code”, “Container Packing” and “Container Training” in the three official languages of UNECE. This is by no means a comprehensive search of potential worldwide resources but provides an overview of the types of online and in-person courses that are available on the CTU Code.

5. This search showed that there are at least 11 institutions offering CTU-related training. In total, 12 training programmes were identified: teaching methods encompass classroom instruction (8), seminars (2), in-house training (2) and online courses (3). It is important to note that the secretariat has not reviewed the detailed contents of the actual courses, and therefore, the inclusion or otherwise of information on specific courses in this document does not constitute, in any way, an endorsement of the company or the course itself by UNECE.

6. Trainings on the IMO/ILO/UNECE CTU Code is regularly offered not only by international consulting firms specialized in the transport industry, but also by national companies and associations. As shown in the table below, the courses available vary significantly in duration and scope: from 7 hours to a few days. While some companies offer a general programme on the CTU Code, many others focus specifically on the transport of dangerous goods.

7. The table below provides the full list of the courses identified in the online search while the paragraphs below focus specifically on the e-learning programmes.

A. Examples of online CTU Code e-learning programmes – Exis Technologies

8. With the support of the TT Club, a leading provider of insurance to the international transport and logistics industry, Exis Technologies launched the CTUpack e-learning course in 2014. This training is composed of a set of courses and study modules available online and is customisable depending on individual company needs. Moreover, participants can complete the course at their own pace or follow fixed-scheduled courses. In addition to the online course, “blended training” is also available which combines classroom with on-the-job training.

9. The CTUpack e-learning programme is composed of four modules: the first, the Cargo module, introduces the main types of cargo, physical characteristics and highlights what can go wrong. The second, the Transport module, looks at how cargo is transported, the main types of equipment used, the forces and stresses encountered during transport and en route. The third, the Packing module, focuses on the preparation and the inspection of the CTU prior to packing, planning how to pack the CTU, manual and mechanical handling considerations, the packing process, securing materials, basic principles for packing and securing, closing the CTU and CTU security, documenting the shipment and insurance consideration. Finally, the Arrival module, looks at considerations when opening the CTU upon arrival, unpacking methods and inventories as well as the removal of securing materials.

10. In 2016, Exis Technologies introduced an additional e-training programme – Introduction to the CTU Code Course – also composed of four modules but with a different focus. The module on (a) Development of the CTU Code provides details on key contributors to the CTU Code and looks at the original packing guidelines and why the new CTU Code was developed, (b) Legal situation and compliance looks at the regulatory framework, the status of the CTU Code and the difference between the previous Guidelines and the new Code, the legal situation with the Code and how it might be enforced. The third module, (c) Overview of the CTU Code structure, sets out the contents of the CTU Code and focuses on the key chapters to consider when reviewing the Code. Finally, the last module, (e) How to access the CTU Code, shows how to access the online version of the CTU Code with worked examples.

B. Examples of online CTU Code e-learning programmes – ADL

11. Asociación para el Desarrollo de la Logística also offers an e-training course on the CTU Code with a special focus on Container Stowage. This training has two modules: the first one covers the topics such as the consequences of poor packing, the forces acting on the load during transport, the basic principles for packing and securing a cargo, and the safe handling of packages. The second module looks at specific topics like refrigerated cargo, paper and cardboard as well as dangerous products.

C. The IMO’s model course on packing of CTUs

12. In 2001, The International Maritime Organization (IMO) developed a training program known as “Course 3.18 on Safe Packing of CTUs”. This model training course intended to assist in the implementation of its conventions, notably the 1997 IMO/ILO/UNECE Guidelines for Packing of Cargo Transport Units.

13. Based on the latter, this training presents CTU types, the consequences of badly packed and secured cargo and principles for cargo packing and securing different cargo types (for example (non-)unitized cargo, paper products, dangerous goods, etc.). It also describes the forces acting on the cargo during the transport and different methods for cargo packing and securing.

14. IMO intends to update Model Course 3.18 on Safe Packing of CTUs to align it with the new CTU code.

III. Next steps

15. Several other institutions offer CTU training around the world. These courses are more likely to be included in a course on a particular topic, such as the handling of dangerous goods.

16. Given this information, the Working Party may wish to consider the next steps in this area including whether it would be appropriate for UNECE to launch web-based training on the CTU Code.

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Training</i>	<i>Online course</i>	<i>Class room</i>	<i>Seminar</i>	<i>In-house</i>	<i>Duration</i>
Asociación para el Desarrollo de la Logística www.adl-logistica.org Spain	Specialist Container Stowage CTU Code 2014 – IMO	√	√			8 hours
Cordstrap www.cordstrap.com Netherlands, United States of America	Secure Cargo Training program		√			N/A
Chem-Safe Consultants www.chem-safe-consultants.de Germany	Training Dangerous Goods		√		√	N/A
Exis Technologies www.existec.com United Kingdom	CTUpack e-learning	√				N/A
	Introduction to the CTU Code Course (available early May 2016)	√				N/A
ICHCA International Ltd http://ichca.com United Kingdom	Understanding the new IMO/ILO/UNECE Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units			√		1 day
SAFE (Marcel Coppeaux) www.safe-formation.fr France	Internship “Load/unload cargo transport units”		√			14 hours
Union Maritime et Fluviale Marseille-Fos http://umf.asso.fr France	Packing of dangerous goods		√			7 hours
Union Portuaire Rouennaise (CFP) www.uprouen.org France	Packing of dangerous goods		√			7 hours
LOGAR www.logar.de Austria and Germany	CSC and CTU stowage guidelines for the maritime transport mode (Dangerous Goods Training)		√		√	N/A
DNV GL www.dnvgl.com Several countries in Europe, Africa and the Middle East, Asia, Australia and New Zealand	Handling and Transport of Dangerous Goods (IMDG Code Training)		√			2 days
SAFETY Training Plus GmbH www.safetytrainingplus.com Germany and Switzerland	Seminar for correct loading of containers			√		1 day