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**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**  
(Nineteenth session, 2-6 July 2001,  
agenda item 5(b))

**PACKAGINGS**

**Miscellaneous proposals**

**Standards for steel drums**

**Transmitted by the International Confederation of Drum Manufacturers (ICDM)  
and the International Confederation of Container Reconditioners (ICCR)**

**Background**

During the previous biennium, comments were made before this Sub-Committee on the performance of steel drums marked in accordance with the UN standards for dangerous goods packagings. In particular, in ST/SG/AC.10/2000/12, the Expert from Spain commented on the changing hardness and elasticity values of the steel used to fabricate steel drums.

Without agreeing with this position, the ICDM and ICCR jointly announced at the twenty-first session of the Committee of Experts their intention to submit a paper for consideration at this session of the Sub-Committee, offering a specific international standard on the physical and chemical properties of steel for inclusion in the Model Regulations for larger steel drums. We believe reference to this standard will allay concerns with changing physical and chemical properties of steels, and we further believe it may have educational value in those nations where steel drum manufacturers may be less familiar with the performance standards.

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The standard proposed is now and has been followed generally by our drum manufacturing industry in Europe, North America, and Asia for many years.

Proposal

Amend 6.1.4.1.1 of the UN standard for steel drums to read as follows:

“Body and heads shall be constructed of steel sheet of a suitable type and of adequate thickness in relation to the capacity of the drum and to its intended use. For drums of a capacity greater than 100 litres, the chemical and physical properties steel used shall conform to the minimum provisions of ISO 3573 or 3574 for cold-rolled and hot-rolled steel, respectively.”

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