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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 11(c)(i))

**GLOBAL HARMONIZATION OF SYSTEMS OF CLASSIFICATION
AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS**

Physical hazards

Criteria for flammable aerosols

**Transmitted by the Federation of European Aerosol Associations (FEA)
and the Consumer Specialty Products Association (CSPA)**

Introduction

1. In the process of global harmonization of the classification criteria for physical hazards, proposals for flammability criteria of aerosols have been discussed during the twenty-first session of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (Geneva, 4-13 December 2000). The discussion on flammability of aerosols is minuted in annex 5 of document ST/SG/AC.10/27.

2. With this information paper, FEA and CSPA want to inform the Sub-Committee on the status of their efforts to resolve the outstanding items.

Working method

3. FEA and CSPA have established separate specialist task forces in order to determine the relevant cut-off values that remained unresolved (points 9, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15 and a clarification of point 8 of annex 5 of ST/SG/AC.10/27).

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4. Here are the results of the discussions between FEA and CSPA:
- (a) The number of flammability levels can be limited to the two levels, Flammable and Extremely Flammable;
 - (b) The Foam Test: the cut-off value for Extremely Flammable should read as follows:
The aerosol product is classified as Extremely Flammable if:
 - (i) The flame height ≥ 20 cm and the flame duration ≥ 2 sec; or
 - (ii) The flame duration ≥ 7 sec and the flame height ≥ 4 cm;
 - (c) Flammable Contents: FEA and CSPA suggest the following proposal:
 - (i) An aerosol product is classified extremely flammable if the product contains more than 85% flammable components and the chemical heat of combustion exceeds or is equal to 30 kJ/g;
 - (ii) An aerosol product is classified non flammable if the product contains less than 1% flammable contents and the chemical heat of combustion is less than 20 kJ/g;

Note that this supersedes item 8 of annex 5 of ST/SG/AC.10/27.

- (d) The Ignition Distance Test: FEA and CSPA are still working to establish a common position for the cut-off values for Extremely Flammable and further testing is underway. It is anticipated that a common proposal will be submitted as an Information Paper prior to the session;
- (e) Enclosed Space Test: the parameters need further discussion. A revised proposal should be issued in time for the session.

5. It should be noted that both FEA and CSPA feel that it is difficult to establish a single classification scheme to accurately reflect the flammability risk for both consumer use and the transport of aerosols.

Summary and next steps

6. Of the five unresolved issues for aerosol flammability classification, today's proposal offers a clear direction for resolving three of them. The remaining two issues are being addressed by FEA and CSPA, and it is anticipated that a common proposal will be issued before the end of June 2001; they will then be ready for discussion at the July 2001 session.
