

**Sub-Committee of Experts on the
Transport of Dangerous Goods**
(Nineteenth session,
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TRANSPORT OF SOLID SUBSTANCES IN BULK

Carriage of Infectious Substances in Bulk

Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom

Introduction

1. The expert from the United Kingdom refers to the paper already submitted by the United Kingdom and Germany on the transport of solid substances in bulk, ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2001/20. The list of substances to be permitted in bulk transport is confined to those which are common to the major modal regulatory provisions. In paragraph 4 of the paper 2001/20 the expert from the United Kingdom suggested that UN 3291, Clinical waste, and UN 2900, Infectious substances affecting animals, be added to the proposal but indicated that this should be the subject of a separate paper.

Background

2. Current requirements for the packaging of UN 2900 and UN 3291 are addressed in Chapter 6.3 of the Model Regulations. There are no provisions for the transport of these substances in bulk. Recent experience in the United Kingdom suggests that while the existing Model Regulations may be sufficient for transporting most substances assigned to UN 2900 in normal everyday circumstances, they are insufficient when, for example, large quantities of animal carcasses need to be transported in exceptional circumstances in a short space of time.

3. The prime concern in the transport of any infectious substance is the risk of the spread of infection. That could occur not only as a result of a transport incident but also during normal conditions of transport where circumstances such as the substance not being sufficiently enclosed could allow the spread of infection to either humans or animals.

4. In the case of UN 2900, however, the expert from the United Kingdom believes that the proposals suggested in ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2001/20 would offer sufficient protection against any risks associated with such transport. Recent experience suggests that these substances could therefore be safely transported in bulk containers.

5. Similarly it has been an increasingly common practice in recent times in UK national transport to permit the transport of UN 3291 Clinical Waste collected in plastics sacks, by road in freight containers. The expert from the UK believes that the current proposals for solid substances in bulk would adequately address necessary safety requirements for such transport. However for UN 3291 in plastics sacks since there is arguably no need to also require a liner in a freight container the UK proposes to amend the first sentence of 6.8.3.2.2 to obviate the need for a liner.

6. In the case of both UN 2900 and UN 3291 there may be an additional hazard from residual liquids emanating from the material carried. It would be necessary therefore to ensure that bulk containers are

Proposal

7. Add a new paragraph 4.3.3.4 in the proposal in paper 2001/20 for UN 2900 and UN 3291;

4.3.3.4 Bulk Goods of Division 6.2

Only closed bulk containers (code [BK]2) may be used.

These goods should be transported in bulk containers in which the openings used for loading and unloading are capable of being leakproof when closed

Renumber the subsequent paragraphs in 4.3.3.4

8. Add UN 2900 and UN 3291 to the list in Annex 2 of 2001/20

Consequential Amendments to the proposals in paper 2001/20.

9. Add ", 6.2" after "5.1" in the title of 4.3.3 both in the body of the text and in 2a) proposals. The titles to 4.3.3.1, 4.3.3.2 and 4.3.3.3 "Class" should read "Division". Also "should be" should now read "shall be" both in the proposed text for 4.3.3.4 and throughout 4.3.3)

10. Amend the first sentence of 6.8.3.2.2 as follows

"Unless it can be demonstrated that the bulk container is capable of retaining the intended contents as constructed, bulk containers shall include a liner made of suitable material."

UN No. (1)	Name and description (2)	Class or division (3)	Subsidiary risk (4)	UN packing group (5)	RID/ADR	IMO	CFR	D	Bulk container types
2900	INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCE AFFECTING ANIMALS only	6.2							[BK]2
3291	CLINICAL WASTE, UNSPECIFIED, N.O.S., or (BIO) MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. or REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE,NOS	6.2		II					[BK]2