



Secretariat

Distr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2003/12
2 April 2003

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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
(Twenty-third session, 30 juin-4 juillet 2003)

PROVISIONS FOR THE TRANSPORT OF GASES

Proposals to amend the proper shipping names of two gases

Transmitted by the European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA)

Introduction

UN 1010 Butadienes, stabilised has three entries in the P 200 and UN 1012 Butylenes has 4 entries. These separate entries are necessary to take account of differing physical properties of the different isomers and their mixtures. At present the P200 distinguishes these isomers by adding a description to the proper shipping name. This proposal requests that the distinction be made by combining part of the description into the proper shipping name, so that the identity of the substances is retained in all cases.

Proposal 1 – Changes to the proper shipping name of UN 1010 Butadienes, stabilized

The second column from the left of the following table below shows the proper shipping names of UN 1010 in its current form in P200. The filling ratio is also shown to demonstrate the differing physical properties of the isomers. The right hand column shows the proposed proper shipping names. These names retain the identity of the isomers and the mixtures at all times and are shorter than the existing combination of name and description since butadiene is not repeated. Maintaining the identity of 1,3-Butadiene is important, not just to establish the correct filling ratio, but because this isomer is classified under user safety legislation as a carcinogen and mutagen when 1,2-Butadiene is not. These proposed proper shipping names have been in successful use in the RID/ADR for many years.

The precedent for having variations of the proper shipping names under one UN number is already set by the following UN numbers; 1210, 1577, 1656, 1658, 1664, 2511, 2730, 2732, 2753, 2870, 3052, etc.

UN No	Existing name and description	Filling ratio	Proposed proper shipping name
1010	BUTADIENES, STABILIZED (1,2-butadiene)	0.59	1,2-BUTADIENE, STABILIZED
1010	BUTADIENES, STABILIZED (1,3-butadiene)	0.55	1,3-BUTADIENE, STABILIZED
1010	BUTADIENES, STABILIZED (mixtures of 1,3-butadiene and hydrocarbons)	0.50	MIXTURES OF 1,3 BUTADIENES AND HYDROCARBONS, STABILIZED

Proposal 2 – Changes to the proper shipping name of UN 1012 Butylene

The above arguments also hold for butylene, except that no differing health effects are reported for these isomers.

UN No	Existing name and description	Filling ratio	Proposed proper shipping name
1012	BUTYLENE (butylenes mixture) or	0.50	BUTYLENES MIXTURES or
1012	BUTYLENE (1-butylene) or	0.53	1-BUTYLENE or
1012	BUTYLENE (cis-2-butylene) or	0.55	CIS-2-BUTYLENE or
1012	BUTYLENE (trans-2 butylene)	0.54	TRANS-2 BUTYLENE

Justification

In summary, the proposal can be justified under the following headings.

Safety implications

Retaining the identity of the substances at all times will increase safety by ensuring that overfilling can be prevented or in the case of a check, detected. Naming 1,3-butadiene will ensure that its health effects can also correctly identified.

Feasibility

No problems are foreseen, as demonstrated by the successful use of these names in the RID/ADR.

Enforceability

No problems are to be expected.
