

UN/SCETDG/26/INF.12

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-sixth session
Geneva, 29 November-7 December 2004
Item 6 of the agenda

EMERGENCY RESPONSE GUIDEBOOK 2004

Transmitted by the Experts from Canada and the United States of America

1. The Experts from Canada and the United States of America are pleased to be able to provide to the Sub-Committee copies of the Emergency Response Guidebook 2004 (ERG2004).
2. The ERG2004 was developed jointly by Transport Canada, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), the Secretariat of Transport and Communications of Mexico (SCT) and with the collaboration of CIQUIME (Centro de Información Química para Emergencias) of Argentina.
3. The ERG2004 is intended to aid first responders in quickly identifying the hazards of any dangerous goods involved in an incident so that they can protect themselves and the public during the initial response phase of an incident. The "initial response phase" is that period following arrival at the scene of first responders during which the presence and identification of dangerous goods is confirmed, protective actions and area securement are initiated and assistance of qualified personnel is requested. The ERG2004 is not a classification guide and is not intended to provide information on the physical or chemical properties of dangerous goods.
4. The **yellow-bordered** pages are arranged numerically by UN Number or NA Number, referred to as "ID Number" in the Guide. The Guide page to be consulted follows the ID Number and this is followed by the shipping name of the dangerous goods. These pages are consulted when the first responders have an ID Number available either from a placard or orange panel or from shipping documents.
5. The **blue-bordered** pages are arranged alphabetically by shipping name. The shipping name is followed by the Guide page to be consulted and the ID number of the dangerous goods.

These pages would be consulted if only the shipping name of the dangerous goods is available to first responders from, for example, documents.

6. If an ID number or a shipping name cannot be obtained but a placard is visible, pages 16 and 17 of the Guide reproduce the placards and show the Guide page to be consulted.
7. The **orange-bordered** pages are the Guide pages that are consulted to obtain safety recommendations to be initiated during the initial response phase of an incident.
8. The **green-bordered** pages provide isolation and protective action distances for substances that pose toxic hazards.
9. The Emergency Response Guide 2004 is available in a number of languages, in addition to English, French and Spanish, including: Chinese, Dutch, German, Hebrew, Hungarian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Thai and Turkish
10. The Guide can easily be translated into any language in which it is not yet available. Transport Canada has a data base of key phrases used in the ERG2004 that can be used to aid in translation. For more information contact:

Michel Cloutier,
Director, CANUTEC
Transport Canada
Telephone: 1-613-947-5052
Fax: 1-613-954-5101
Email: cloutm@tc.gc.ca
