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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

Thirty-first session  
Geneva, 2-6 July 2007  
Item 10(b) of the provisional agenda

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally  
Harmonized System of Classification and  
Labelling of Chemicals

Thirteenth session  
Geneva, 9-11 July 2007  
Item 2(a) of the provisional agenda

**UPDATING OF THE GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION  
AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS (GHS)**

Physical hazards

Amendments to Chapter 2.1 of the GHS (Explosives)

Transmitted by the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers Institute (SAAMI)

**Introduction**

1. During the eleventh session, the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers Institute (SAAMI) asked that the Sub-Committee of Experts on the GHS reconsiders its decision of the eighth session where the GHS pictogram for 1.4 explosives was changed to an exploding bomb on the basis of proposal ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2004/12. SAAMI's proposal was submitted to the GHS Subcommittee as ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/2006/7 and, since it involves physical hazards, also to the TDG Subcommittee as ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2006/61.

2. The proposal asserted that, for many reasons, an exploding bomb pictogram hazard is not appropriate for 1.4S sporting ammunition. In this regard, the pictogram constitutes an excessive warning, and is hence detrimental to safety. Therefore, the proposal asked that the 1.4 symbol be

realigned with the transport label to remove the exploding bomb, or alternatively, that certain sporting ammunition products be labelled without the exploding bomb pictogram.

3. However, some experts in the explosives working group were concerned about 1.4S products which may be more dangerous than sporting ammunition. They believed that the exploding bomb pictogram was appropriate for certain other 1.4S products. Therefore they opposed a return for Division 1.4 to the transport label with no exploding bomb pictogram. Other experts supported the removal of the exploding bomb for 1.4S, but wanted a more general solution, and not one specific to certain sporting ammunition products. Therefore, SAAMI was invited to submit a revised proposal to address these concerns in July 2007.

4. Regarding products which warrant an exploding bomb pictogram, it is a matter of debate of whether they should be in 1.4S. The explosives working group is studying this issue separately, and if a tool is implemented to remove these products from 1.4S, such as the proposed 6(d) test, then there is no reason to keep an exploding bomb pictogram on the remaining products.













5. 1.4S products are recognizably different in hazard than other 1.4 divisions, part of the criteria being that fire fighters and emergency responders are not significantly endangered in the immediate vicinity of a fire. In many different instances in the UN Model Regulations, 1.4S products are singled out for exceptions. Therefore there is justification to continue this trend and assign a less stringent GHS pictogram to 1.4S products than other 1.4 divisions.

6. A separate pictogram for 1.4S could be implemented by amending the GHS Explosives Table in Annex 1 of the GHS as follows. This is very similar to Table 2.1.2, which could be similarly amended. Changes are highlighted:

## Annex 1

## ALLOCATION OF LABEL ELEMENTS

For the GHS, the assigned pictogram, signal word and hazard statement are given in that order for each hazard category of the hazard class. Where the hazard class and or categories are covered under the *UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations*, the assigned corresponding pictogram is given for each category below the GHS requirements.

EXPLOSIVES							
Unstable explosives	Division 1.1	Division 1.2	Division 1.3	Division 1.4 other than 1.4S	Division 1.4S	Division 1.5	Division 1.6
					No pictogram 1.4S on orange background	No pictogram 1.5 on orange background	No pictogram 1.6 on orange background
Danger	Danger	Danger	Danger	Warning	Warning	Danger	No signal word
Unstable explosive	Explosive; mass explosion hazard	Explosive; severe projection hazard	Explosive; fire, blast or projection hazard	Fire or projection hazard	Fire or projection hazard	May mass explode in fire	No hazard statement
No pictogram assigned in the <i>UN Model Regulations</i> (Transport not allowed)							

**Notes** on the colours of the *UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations*, pictogram elements:

- (1) For Divisions 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3: Symbol exploding bomb: black; background: orange; Division number (1.1, 1.2 or 1.3, as appropriate) and compatibility group (\*) in bottom half and figure "1" in bottom corner: black.
- (2) For Divisions 1.4, 1.5, 1.6: Background: orange; Figures: black; Compatibility group (\*) in bottom half and figure "1" in bottom corner: black.
- (3) The pictogram for Divisions 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 is also assigned to substances which have an explosive subsidiary risk, but without the indication of the division number and the compatibility group (see also "Self-reactive substances" and "Organic peroxides").

## Proposal

7. Implement the changes to the GHS Explosives Table in Annex 1 as shown above.
8. Implement the same changes to Table 2.1.2, i.e. a new column for 1.4S indicating a 1.4S transport pictogram as the GHS pictogram for 1.4S materials.