

**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

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Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda

LISTING, CLASSIFICATION AND PACKING

Problems encountered for testing “Explosive Properties”
of pharmaceutical chemicals

Transmitted by the expert from the United States of America

1. This paper is intended only to facilitate discussion. No decision by the Sub-Committee is requested. The expert from the United States of America is seeking comments from members of the Sub-Committee on the issues presented in this paper.

Background

2. Pharmaceutical companies routinely screen a large number of materials for their potential applications. Many of these materials are candidates for “explosives” based on the screening procedures, i.e. structure-activity relationship, decomposition energy and temperature by scanning calorimetry, etc.

Problems

- (a) Only small quantities of materials are available at the time of evaluation;
- (b) Materials are very expensive;
- (c) Classification testing is very expensive for the number of materials to be evaluated.

Solutions desired

- (a) Small scale testing methods and criteria;
 - (b) Simplified testing requirements or reduced number of tests;
 - (c) Consider non-regulated substance status for transport of very small quantities of these materials.
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