

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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MISCELLANEOUS PROPOSALS OF AMENDMENTS TO THE MODEL REGULATIONS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Revision of Section 7.1.3.2.3

Transmitted by the Expert from Australia

SCOPE

This proposal recommends amendments to section 7.1.3.2.3 regarding the stowage of Class 1 dangerous goods with other classes.

Introduction

1. Section 7.1.3.2.3 of the 15th Edition of the UN Model Regulations has altered the segregation requirements for the transport of Class 1 goods with other classes of goods to allow blasting explosive (except UN0083) to be stowed with Ammonium Nitrate as well as inorganic nitrates, alkali metal nitrates and alkaline metal nitrates. This section states:

“Blasting explosives (except EXPLOSIVE, BLASTING, TYPE C, UN 0083) may be stowed together with AMMONIUM NITRATE and inorganic nitrates of Class 5.1 (UN Nos. 1942 and 2067) and alkali metal nitrates (e.g., UN 1486) and alkaline earth metal nitrates (e.g., UN 1454) provided the aggregate is treated as blasting explosives under Class 1 for the purposes of placarding, segregations, stowage and maximum permissible load”.

Issues

2. The Expert from Australia welcomes this clarification as the previous wording appeared to be unnecessarily restrictive, addressing only ammonium nitrate and sodium nitrate. However, as the relaxation section only relates to dangerous goods, the use of examples (e.g.) leaves scope for selective application and does not provide clarity for those who may not be immediately aware what nitrate materials may be covered by such a description. Australia prefers to specify the

substances included, via the inclusion of a note to this section. Inclusion of the alkali earth metal nitrates and alkali metal nitrates merits support as it would fully clarify the nitrate materials covered by the description.

Recommendation

3. The Expert from Australia recommends section 7.1.3.2.3 be amended to read:

“Blasting explosives (except EXPLOSIVE, BLASTING, TYPE C, UN 0083) may be stowed together with AMMONIUM NITRATE and inorganic nitrates of Class 5.1 (UN Nos. 1942 and 2067) and alkali metal nitrates and alkaline earth metal nitrates, provided the aggregate is treated as blasting explosives under Class 1 for the purposes of placarding, segregations, stowage and maximum permissible load.

Note: Alkali metal nitrates include UN1451 (Caesium Nitrate), UN1498 (Sodium Nitrate), UN2722 (Lithium Nitrate) and UN1486 (Potassium Nitrate). Alkali earth metal nitrates include UN1446 (Barium Nitrate), UN1474 (Magnesium Nitrate), UN1507 (Strontium Nitrate), UN2464 (Beryllium Nitrate) and UN1454 (Calcium Nitrate).”
