



Secretariat

Distr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2008/61
9 June 2008

ENGLISH
Original: ENGLISH AND FRENCH

**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-third session
Geneva, 30 June-9 July (a.m) 2008
Item 7 (f) of the provisional agenda

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

Miscellaneous

Revision of paragraph 7.1.3.2.3

Transmitted by the expert from Australia *

Background

1. At the 32nd session, Australia presented UN/SCETDG/INF.22 relating to amendments to paragraph 7.1.3.2.3 introduced in the 15th Edition of the UN Model Regulations. This paragraph currently states:

“Blasting explosives (except UN0083 Explosives, blasting, type C) may be transported together with ammonium nitrate (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

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2007-2008 approved by the Committee at its third session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/60 para. 100 and ST/SG/AC.10/34, para. 14)

treated as blasting explosives under Class 1 for the purposes of placarding, segregation, stowage and maximum permissible load.”

2. While supporting the amendments reflected in the 15th Edition, the expert from Australia considers the use of examples (e.g.) leaves scope for selective application and does not provide clarity for those unaware of nitrate materials not covered by such a description.
3. Many users of the UN Model Regulations and associated codes tasked with applying the segregation requirements (carriers, ships officers, cargo planners etc), will not have the level of chemical knowledge to effectively apply this paragraph. This could lead to ineffective or non compliant application.
4. Inclusion in a note of all the alkali metal nitrates and alkaline earth metal nitrates classified as dangerous goods would clarify which nitrate materials are covered by the description.

Proposal

5. Add the following note at the end of paragraph 7.1.3.2.3:

***NOTE:** Alkali metal nitrates include UN 1451 (Caesium Nitrate), UN 1486 (Potassium Nitrate), UN1498 (Sodium Nitrate) and UN 2722 (Lithium Nitrate) and, alkaline earth metal nitrates include UN 1446 (Barium Nitrate), UN1454 (Calcium Nitrate), UN1474 (Magnesium Nitrate), UN 1507 (Strontium Nitrate) and UN 2464 (Beryllium Nitrate).”*
