

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-fourth session
Geneva, 1-9 December 2008
Item 11 of the provisional agenda

ISSUES RELATING TO THE GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS (GHS)

References to the Screening test for substances which may have explosive properties
Consequential changes to the adoption of ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2008/78

Transmitted by the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA)

Background

1. Along with the adoption of paper ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2008/78 which introduced a screening test with additional criteria for substances which may have explosive properties, ICCA was invited by the Subcommittee to compile consequential changes to the GHS.
2. ICCA checked the GHS Document and came to the following conclusions:
3. For Self-reactive substances and mixtures as well as for Organic peroxides, no modification of the GHS Document is necessary since the chapters about the decision logic (2.8.4.1 and 2.15.4.1) directly refer to test series A to H as described in Part II of the UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Manual of Tests and Criteria.
4. For Explosives, an amendment of the text in chapter 2.1.4.2 of the GHS Document is necessary.

Proposal

5. Modify the NOTE in section 2.1.4.2.1 of the GHS Document to read:

“Neither a Series 1 type (a) propagation of detonation nor a Series 2 type (a) test of sensitivity to detonative shock is required if the exothermic decomposition energy of organic materials is less than 800 J/g. For organic substances and mixtures with a decomposition energy of 800 J/g or more, tests 1 (a) or 2 (a) do not have to be performed if the outcome of the Ballistic Mortar MK.IIID test (F.1), or Ballistic Mortar (F2) or the BAM Trauzl test (F.3) with initiation by a standard #8 detonator is “no”. In this case, the results of test 1(a) and 2(a) are deemed to be “-”.”
