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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-seventh session**

Geneva, 21–30 June 2010

Item 7 of the provisional agenda

**Cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)****Special Provision 290 and limited quantities****Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom<sup>1</sup>**

1. Special Provision (SP) 290 was revised for the sixteenth revised edition of the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations.
2. The new version of SP290 generally clarifies the requirements for radioactive material, excepted packages that also meet the definitions and criteria of other classes and divisions.
3. However one of the resulting changes is that from paragraph (c) of the new SP290, the provisions of Chapter 3.4 for the transport of dangerous goods packed in limited quantities, no longer apply to substances classified in accordance with paragraph (b).
4. This is unfortunate because within the nuclear industry many samples are routinely transported that consist of a non-Class 7 substance meeting the quantity limits of dangerous goods packed in limited quantities (e.g. a corrosive solution) containing radioactive material meeting the classification criteria of excepted package. To enable these samples to continue to be transported under the provisions of Chapter 3.4, the following amendments to SP290 are proposed:

**SP290** Amend to read as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2009-2010 approved by the Committee at its fourth session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/68, para. 118 (c) and ST/SG/AC.10/36, para. 14).

"290 When this radioactive material meets the definitions and criteria of other classes or divisions as defined in Part 2, it shall be classified in accordance with the following:

(a) Where the substance meets the criteria for dangerous goods in excepted quantities as set out in Chapter 3.5, the packagings shall be in accordance with 3.5.2 and meet the testing requirements of 3.5.3. All other requirements applicable to radioactive material, excepted packages as set out in 1.5.1.5 shall apply without reference to the other class or division;

(b) Where the quantity exceeds the limits specified in 3.5.1.2 but does not exceed the limits specified in Column 7a in the Dangerous Goods List of Chapter 3.2 and 3.4.2, the substance shall be classified in accordance with the predominant risk. The dangerous goods transport document shall describe the substance with the UN number and proper shipping name applicable to that class or division supplemented with the name applicable to the radioactive material excepted package according to Column 2 in the Dangerous Goods List of Chapter 3.2. It shall be transported in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 3.4 except 3.4.3 for dangerous goods packed in limited quantities applicable to that UN number. An example of the information shown on the dangerous goods transport document is:

UN 3264, Corrosive liquid, acidic, inorganic, n.o.s. (nitric acid), limited quantity, Radioactive material, excepted package – limited quantity of material, 8, PG III.

In addition, the requirements of 2.7.2.4.1 and 6.4.4 shall apply.

(c) Where the quantity exceeds the limits specified in Column 7a in the Dangerous Goods List of Chapter 3.2 and 3.4.2, the substance shall be classified in accordance with the predominant risk. The dangerous goods transport document shall describe the substance with the UN number and proper shipping name applicable to that class or division supplemented with the name applicable to the radioactive material excepted package according to Column 2 in the Dangerous Goods List of Chapter 3.2, and the substance shall be transported in accordance with the provisions applicable to that UN number. An example of the information shown on the dangerous goods transport document is:

UN 1993, Flammable liquid, n.o.s. (ethanol and toluene mixture), Radioactive material, excepted package – limited quantity of material, 3, PG II.

In addition, the requirements of 2.7.2.4.1 shall apply.

(d) When the substance meets a special provision that exempts this substance from all dangerous goods provisions of the other classes or divisions it shall be classified in accordance with the applicable UN number of Class 7 and all requirements specified in 1.5.1.5 shall apply."

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