

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 9 of the provisional agenda

Guiding principles for the Model Regulations

Assignment of SP 274

Transmitted by the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC)

Background

1. The issue of aligning the assignment of SP274 between the UN Model Regulations on the one hand and RID/ADR/ADN on the other hand was discussed at several meetings in the last biennium; see in particular ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2008/25, UN/SCETDG/33/INF.3, ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2008/63, UN/SCETDG/33/INF.55 (USA). For this purpose a number of criteria had been developed.
2. During the discussion of UN/SCETDG/36/INF.8 (CEFIC) at the United Nations Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods in December 2009, which corrected an omission, the expert from France expressed the wish that the criteria for assigning special provision (SP) 274 appear in the Guiding Principles.

Proposal

3. Based upon the arguments tabled and the decisions taken, CEFIC proposes inserting the (underlined) text as follows in Part 3 of the Guiding Principles.

Part 3

Dangerous Goods List, limited quantity and excepted

Quantity provisions

Chapter 3.2, Dangerous Goods List

The Dangerous Goods List in Chapter 3.2 lists the proper shipping names and UN numbers of substances most commonly transported. The list is not exhaustive but is intended to include, as much as possible, proper shipping names and UN numbers for substances that are of commercial importance. Additional information about the list is provided in Chapter 3.1.

The attention is drawn to the application of special provision (SP) 274: generic and “not otherwise specified” proper shipping names that are assigned to that special provision in column 6 of the Dangerous Goods List shall be supplemented with the technical or chemical group name unless a national law or international convention prohibits its disclosure if it is a controlled substance.

The following rationale for assigning SP 274 has been applied:

— SP274 is assigned to entries for which a special provision in column 6 refers to the prohibition of carriage for one or more substances under this UN number e.g. UN 2627 with special provision (SP) 103. This helps carriers and enforcement officers in checking if goods are authorized for carriage;

— SP274 is assigned to generic and n.o.s. entries of Division 6.1 because the knowledge of the technical name will speed up the provision of appropriate first aid measures. Exception is made for the entries for medicines (UN 1851- 3248-3249) in order to address concerns over the disclosure of controlled medicinal substances whose identity in transport could lead to practical and logistical problems including theft and unauthorized use and distribution;

— SP274 is assigned to generic and n.o.s. entries of classes or divisions other than Division 6.1 only if the knowledge of the technical name would lead to different emergency measures;

— SP274 is not assigned to n.o.s. entries for gas samples (e.g. UN 3167) because this is not required by 2.0.4.1;

— SP274 is assigned to entries for metal catalysts (e.g. UN 1378) for which the technical name can help emergency services in identifying the appropriate fire extinguishing medium;

— SP274 is assigned to entries for elevated temperature substances (UN 3256-3257-3258) because the technical name can help emergency services in identifying the appropriate fire extinguishing medium (e.g. presence of alcohol in the substance carried) or in estimating the temperature (e.g. melting point of the substance carried).

A substance or article specifically listed ...
