



**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****Forty-ninth session**

Geneva, 27 June – 6 July 2016

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Listing, classification and packing**Packagings for infectious substances – revised proposal****Transmitted by the expert from Germany¹**

1. At the last meeting, the Sub-Committee considered several proposals on testing of packagings for infectious substances (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2015/48 and informal documents INF. 30 and INF. 59). The Sub-Committee supported the principle of revising the packing provisions in order to overcome the problems encountered in practice with waste contaminated with infectious substances, for example in the recent context of the treatment of solid wastes generated in relation to the outbreak of the Ebola virus. However, no consensus could be found on the details of the proposals.
2. Taking into account the debate during the last session and considering drop test results performed at BAM the German expert has reviewed the proposal of informal document INF.30. The main task was to find a solution to keep the provisions as simple as possible that they are easily applicable for solid infectious substances.
3. The first proposed amendment concerns packaging instruction P620. The requirement for the internal pressure test and the capability of withstanding temperatures in the range -40 °C to + 55 °C are considered separately as already proposed in the documents ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2015/48, informal documents INF.30 and INF.59. If the absorbent material is placed in the primary receptacle the provisions of Chapter 6.3 for solids shall be applied. The second amendment is related to subsection 6.3.5.2.1. The most important issue here is that the primary receptacle shall not be filled to not less than 98 % of its capacity but to its maximum permissible gross mass and that for solids the testing can be carried out with corresponding solid material instead of a liquid. The marking of the packaging shall

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2015–2016 approved by the Committee at its seventh session (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/92, paragraph 95 and ST/SG/AC.10/42, para. 15).

occur as described in informal document INF.59. The proposal to require a text for marking (“PACKAGING FOR SOLID WASTE ONLY”) is not maintained. Such a text mark could be a help for the medical staff using this packaging, but this can be also achieved by additional marks authorized by the competent authority..

Proposal

4. Amend the text of P620 to read as follows (new text underlined, old text ~~stricken through~~):

“Packagings meeting the requirements of Chapter 6.3 and approved accordingly consisting of:

- (a) Inner packaging comprising:

(i) leakproof primary receptacle(s);

(ii) a leakproof secondary packaging;

(iii) other than for solid infectious substances, an absorbent material in sufficient quantity to absorb the entire contents placed between the primary receptacle(s) and the secondary packaging or in the primary receptacle(s); if an absorbent material in sufficient quantity to absorb the entire contents is placed in the primary receptacle(s) the provisions of Chapter 6.3 for solids shall be applied; if multiple primary receptacles are placed in a single secondary packaging, they shall be either individually wrapped or separated so as to prevent contact between them;”

“3. Whatever the intended temperature of the consignment, the primary receptacle or the secondary packaging shall be capable of withstanding without leakage an internal pressure producing a pressure differential of not less than 95 kPa ~~and~~ This primary receptacle or secondary packaging shall also be capable of withstanding temperatures in the range -40 °C to +55 °C.”

5. Amend the text of subsection 6.3.5.2.1 to read as follows (new text underlined, old text ~~stricken through~~):

“6.3.5.2.1 Samples of each packaging shall be prepared as for transport except that a liquid shall be replaced by water or, where conditioning at -18 °C is specified, by water/antifreeze. Solid infectious substances or articles shall be replaced by such that own the same physical properties (mass, density etc.) and which do not falsify the test results. For packagings whose inner packaging is intended for the transport of liquid or solid substances separated tests for the liquid and the solid content are required. Each primary receptacle shall be filled to ~~not less than 98 % of its capacity;~~ its maximum permissible gross mass.”

6. Amend the marking provisions as follows:

Insert two new paragraphs 6.3.4.2 (d) and (e):

“(d) For packagings tested for solid infectious substances only, the maximum gross mass in kilograms;

(e) For packagings tested for solid infectious substances only, the letter “S”;

The remaining entries of the list in 6.3.4.2 change from (d) – (g) to (f) – (i) respectively.

In 6.3.4.3, replace “6.3.4.2 (a) to (g)” with “6.3.4.2 (a) to (i)”.

Amend 6.3.4.4 as follows:

6.3.4.4 Examples of marking

4G/CLASS 6.2/06 as in 6.3.4.2 (a), (b), (c) and (f)

S/SP-9989-ERIKSSON as in 6.3.4.2 (g) and (h)

4G/CLASS 6.2/15/S/06 as in 6.3.4.2 (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e)

S/SP-9989-ERIKSSON as in 6.3.4.2 (g) and (h)

In 6.3.5.1.6 g) replace “6.3.4.2 (a) to (f)” with “6.3.4.2 (a) to (h)” and “6.3.4.2 (g)” with “6.3.4.2 (h)”.
