



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
30 June 2017

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Geneva, 19–29 September 2017

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Harmonization with the United Nations

Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Articles containing lithium metal batteries or lithium ion batteries

Transmitted by the Governments of Germany and Sweden^{*, **}

Summary

- Executive summary:** Allow packages with articles containing lithium batteries to be transported without having to affix the lithium battery mark or the label 9A
- Reference documents:** ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2017/26 and /Add.1 (report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Harmonization of RID/ADR/ADN with the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods).

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2016-2017, (ECE/TRANS/2016/28/Add.1 (9.2)).

** Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2017/39.

1. In the report from the harmonization meeting it is suggested to include twelve new entries for articles in different classes (UN 3537-3548). These articles may contain one or more lithium batteries.
2. In a new sub-section 5.2.2.1.12.1 it is proposed that, for articles containing lithium batteries, either the lithium battery mark (Figure 5.2.1.9.2) or the lithium battery label (label model No. 9A in 5.2.2.2.2) shall be affixed to the package or unpackaged article depending on the amount of lithium content or Watt-hour rating.
3. In the 2017 editions of RID/ADR/ADN, three new entries were included for engines and machinery (UN Nos. 3528-3530). In the special provision 363 assigned to these entries, it is stated in point (f) that these machines may contain other dangerous goods than fuels (e.g. batteries, fire extinguishers, compressed gas accumulators or safety devices) required for their functioning or safe operation without being subject to any additional requirements for these other dangerous goods. Lithium batteries must however meet the requirements of 2.2.9.1.7, except as provided for in special provision 667. In conclusion, for machinery containing lithium batteries, there is no need to affix the lithium battery mark or the label 9A.
4. The Governments of Sweden and Germany are of the opinion that, for articles containing dangerous goods (other than lithium batteries) and lithium batteries, affixing the lithium battery mark or the label 9A should not be required, in line with what is stated for the existing entries for machinery containing lithium batteries. They believe that, from a hazard communication perspective, it is sufficient to affix the labels representative of the other dangerous goods contained in the article.
5. The authors therefore propose to modify the text of 5.2.2.1.12.1 proposed in ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2017/26/Add.1 accordingly.

Proposal

6. Amend 5.2.2.1.12.1 as contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2017/26/Add.1 to read as follows:

“5.2.2.1.12.1 Packages containing dangerous goods in articles and dangerous goods in articles carried unpackaged shall bear labels according to 5.2.2.1 reflecting the hazards established according to 2.1.5, except that for articles that in addition contain lithium batteries, a lithium battery mark or a label conforming to model No. 9A is not required.”
