

**Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods  
and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification  
and Labelling of Chemicals**

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**Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods**

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Item 6 (d) of the provisional agenda

**Miscellaneous proposals for amendments to the Model  
Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods:  
other miscellaneous proposals**

**Proposal for a definition of the term «Flash point» in section  
1.2.1 «Definitions»**

**Transmitted by the expert from the Russian Federation**

**Introduction**

1. As is known the flash point is the lowest temperature at which flammable vapors will suffice to cause ignition when an external ignition source is used.
2. The term "Flash point" is used more than 200 times in the text of the UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations (20 revised edition), and also in the documents of the next level - RID/ADR/ADN and others.
3. However, a definition of the term "flash point", in section 1.2.1 "Definitions" of the Model Regulations, has not been submitted to date. Section 2.3.3 in Chapter 2.3 of the Model Regulations provides methods for determining the flash point and a list of international and national standards used for this purpose.
4. This term is defined in section 1.2.1 «Definitions» in the documents of the next level - RID/ADR/ADN:

*«Flash-pont* means the lowest temperature of a liquid at which its vapours form a flammable mixture with air».

and section 1.2.1 "Terms and definitions" annex 2 to SMGS:

*«Flash point* is the lowest temperature of a liquid at which its vapors form a flammable mixture with air».

5. However the definition of this term in the above documents – (RID/ADR/ADN) and Annex 2 to SMGS raises many questions, as there are no words (external) source of ignition and flash point can be mistaken for behind autoignition temperature, when an external ignition source is not required to initiate combustion or explosion.

**Sentence**

6. Thus, it is proposed to include the term «Flash point» in section 1.2.1 «Definitions» of the Model Regulations of the UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods as follows:

*«Flash-point* - lowest temperature of the test portion, corrected to a standard barometric pressure of 101,3 kPa, at which application of an ignition source causes

the vapors of the test portion to ignite and the flame to propagate across the surface of the liquid under the specified conditions of test.”

## **Justification**

7. This amendment would provide interpretation of the term «Flash-point».

## **Difficulties**

8. No difficulties are expected with the implementation of this amendment. After the adoption of the amendment, the correction of the documents of the next level should be recommended.
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