ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE **INF.10**

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (Geneva, 1-10 October 2003, agenda item 4)

PROPOSAL to 1.X.3

Transmitted by the European Industrial Gas Association (EIGA)

SUMMARY	
Executive Summary:	According to the introductory note 2 of chapter 1.X the security measures are designed to prevent the mis-use of dangerous goods. Toxic gases with a LC_{50}1h > 200 ppm are widely used for common applications. Therefore theses gases should be excluded from the table 1.X.1.
Action to be taken:	Insert the proposed changes in table 1.X.1.
Related documents:	Trans/WP.15/AC.1/92/Add. 2.

Introduction

Toxic gases with a $LC_{50} \geq 200$ ppm such as ammonia (LC_{50} = 4000 ppm), carbon monoxide (LC_{50} = 3760 ppm), sulphur dioxide (LC_{50} = 2520 ppm) or chlorine (LC_{50} = 293 ppm) are widely applied in many fields of the public life. Ammonia is used for cold-storage refrigeration plants (e. g. in supermarkets). Chlorine is important for the water disinfection of swimming pools. Carbon monoxide is for example a calibration gas for laboratories and repair shops. Sulphur dioxide is applied for the production of wines.
These gases develop their toxicity over a longer period, but not at once such as the very toxic substances. (*Remark: The European Council Directive 67/548/EEC differentiates between toxic and very toxic substances and the RID/ADR packing instruction P200 also requires extra precautions on package integrity for gases with* $LC_{50} \leq 200$ *ppm.*)

The measures of the security plan in 1.X.3.2 will demand too much from for the users such as swimming bath attendants, supermarket employees or wine producers, without commensurate benefit in enhancing public protection.

Therefore EIGA proposes to exclude toxic gases with a $LC_{50} > 200$ ppm and which are transported in cylinders and other small receptacles from the table 1.X.1.

Proposal

In table 1.X.1 after “excluding aerosols” insert “, and excluding receptacles small, containing gas (gas cartridges) and gas cylinders containing toxic gases with a LC_{50} > 200 ppm”

Justification

The proposed modification is in line with spirit of the security chapter and helps to simplify the implementation of this chapter in practice.

The proposed change is proven by experiences because no mis-use of these gases is known.

Safety implications

The current level of safety will be maintained.
