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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

Bern, 8-11 September 2009 and
Geneva, 14-18 September 2009
Item 7 (b) of the provisional agenda

MISCELLANEOUS PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO RID/ADR/ADN

New proposals

Chapter 3.3: Special provision 584

Transmitted by the Government of Austria^{1,2}

SUMMARY

Executive summary:	This special provision, assigned to UN1013 Carbon dioxide and UN1070 Nitrous oxide, already exists for a long time but the conditions were worded incorrectly. Carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide with 0.75 g of this gas per cm ³ are at room temperature in the liquid state and therefore listed with the classification codes 2A and 2O.
Decision to be taken:	In special provision 584 of Chapter 3.3 delete the first indent: “- it is in the gaseous state;” and amendments set out below.
Related documents:	ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2009/16

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2006-2010 (ECE/TRANS/166/Add.1, programme activity 02.7 (c)).

² Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2009/51.

Introduction

1. The transport of pressurized gas in receptacles up to 120 ml in volume is regulated in different ways in each of the ADR/RID/ADN, the UN Model Regulations and the US 49 Code of Federal Regulations.
2. Receptacles less than 50 ml in volume are generally shipped under the UN Number UN 2037; larger receptacles use various other classifications. A harmonization of the regulations for these products combined with clear construction requirements would ensure the safety of the products, and the industry and the forwarders would benefit from the harmonized regulation.
3. Typical examples of these receptacles are 10.5 ml receptacles filled with N₂O for whipping up food in cream whippers or filled with CO₂ for preparation of soda water or 85 ml receptacles filled with CO₂ for life saving jacket.
4. All receptacles are non-refillable.
5. The implementation of standards for the construction requirements will need some more time and can not be achieved in this biennium.
6. Carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide with 0.75 g of this gas per cm³ are at room temperature in the liquid state and therefore listed with the classification codes 2A and 2O. For that reason the first indent of special provision 584 is false and has to be deleted.
7. By that occasion special provision 584 should be improved as a whole:
 - (a) The requirement, that the gas contains less than 0.5% air is no longer a specification in ADR;
 - (b) There is no definition of capsule in the regulations - "receptacle" is proposed as a replacement of "capsule";
 - (c) 50 ml is an established volume in the regulations egg SP190 and SP191- and this is now proposed to replace "25g".
8. Therefore the second indent of special provision 584 should be deleted too and the following ones changed:
 - (a) from "metal capsules (sodors, sparklets)" to "non-refillable metal receptacles";
 - (b) from "the leakproofness of the closure of the capsule is ensured" to "the leakproofness of each receptacle and its closure is ensured";
 - (c) from "a capsules contains not more than 25 g of this gas" to "the volume of each receptacle does not exceed 50 ml; and";
 - (d) from "a capsule contains not more than 0.75 g of this gas per cm³ of capacity" to "each receptacle contains not more than 0,75 g of the gas per ml of volume."

Proposals

9. The Government of Austria prefers the first proposal which reflects the whole text of special provision 584. If the Joint Meeting is not able to agree upon it, the second proposal only concerns the first indent.

Proposal 1

10. Amend Special Provision 584 to read as follows:

“**584** This gas is not subject to the requirements of ADR when:

- *(Deleted)*
- *(Deleted)*
- it is contained in non-refillable metal receptacles free from defects which may impair their strength;
- the leakproofness of each receptacle and its closure is ensured;
- the volume of each receptacle does not exceed 50 ml; and
- each receptacle contains not more than 0.75 g of the gas per ml of volume.”

Proposal 2

11. Delete the first indent of special provision 584 (*rest unchanged*)

Justification

Safety: This exemption SP584 was made for these receptacles and was used for dozens of years without any transport incidents or accidents. The amendments are proposed for clarity and also to make SP584 more consistent with the current regulations.

Applicability: This correction will avoid confusion due to different classifications.

Transitional measure: Not necessary.
