



WORKING PAPER

**DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP)
MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE**

The Hague, 3 to 7 November 2008

Agenda Item 2: Development of recommendations for amendments to the *Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air* (Doc 9284) for incorporation in the 2011/2012 Edition

2.2: Part 2 — Classification

2.5: Part 5 — Shipper's Responsibilities

CLASSIFICATION OF VISCOUS SUBSTANCES

(Presented by K. Vermeersch)

SUMMARY

This paper proposes to align the classification of viscous substances in the *Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air* (Doc9284) with the classification criteria of the UN Model Regulations and of the other modes of transport.

Action by the DGP-WG is in paragraph 2.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 A difference between the Technical Instructions and the UN Model Regulations has been brought to my attention. Paragraph 2.3.2.5 of the UN Model Regulations contains provisions for the transport of viscous substances which have a flash point of 23°C or above and less than or equal to 60°C to exclude them from the Transport Regulations:

2.3.2.5 Viscous substances which:

- have a flash point of 23 °C or above and less than or equal to 60°C;
- are not toxic, corrosive or environmentally hazardous;
- contain not more than 20 % nitrocellulose provided the nitrocellulose contains not more than 12.6% nitrogen by dry mass; and
- are packed in receptacles of less than 450 l capacity.

are not subject to the Regulations if:

- (a) in the solvent separation test (see Manual of Tests and Criteria, Part III, subsection 32.5.1), the height of the separated layer of solvent is less than 3% of the total height; and

(b) the flowtime in the viscosity test (see Manual of Tests and Criteria, Part III, subsection 32.4.3), with a jet diameter of 6 mm is equal to or greater than:

- (i) 60 seconds; or
- (ii) 40 seconds if the viscous substance contains not more than 60 % of class 3 substances;

1.2 The Technical Instructions do not contain these provisions. The other modes however have incorporated these provisions in a similar way.

2. ACTION BY THE DGP-WG

2.1 The DGP-WG is invited to incorporate these provisions in the Technical Instructions:

a) insert new paragraph 2;3.2.4 as follows:

3.2.4 Viscous substances which:

— have a flash point of 23 °C or above and less than or equal to 60°C;

— are not toxic, corrosive or environmentally hazardous;

— contain not more than 20 % nitrocellulose provided the nitrocellulose contains not more than 12.6% nitrogen by dry mass; and

— are packed in receptacles of less than 450l capacity;

are not subject to the Regulations if :

a) in the solvent separation test (see UN Manual of Tests and Criteria, Part III, subsection 32.5.1), the height of the separated layer of solvent is less than 3 per cent of the total height; and

b) the flow time in the viscosity test (see UN Manual of Tests and Criteria, Part III, subsection 32.4.3), with a jet diameter of 6 mm is equal to or greater than:

1) 60 seconds; or

2) 40 seconds if the viscous substance contains not more than 60 per cent of Class 3 substances;

b) renumber existing paragraph 2;3.2.4 as follows:

~~3.2.4~~ 3.2.5 Substances classified as flammable liquids due to their being transported or offered for transport at elevated temperatures are included in Packing Group III.

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