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COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS AND ON THE GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (Twenty-first session, 1-10 July 2002 Lal agenda item 2) (The

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (Third session, 10-12 July 2002)

# ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR THE TRANSPORT OF GASES

#### **Chapter 2.2 – Definition of flammable gases**

Transmitted by the European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA)

## Introduction

Further to the informal paper 6 tabled during the second session of 12th December 2001, EIGA wishes to formally submit a proposal to amend table 1 "Criteria for flammable gases" in Chapter 2.2.

#### **Proposal**

Delete the second criterion (b) from Chapter 2.2; table 1; category 1. Delete "Ammonia and" from NOTE 1 under the table.

## **Justification**

Except for ammonia, EIGA is unaware of flammable gases that have a flammable range of at least 12 percentage points and are not ignitable when in a mixture of 13% or less by volume in air. The deletion of (b) from table 1 will automatically allocate ammonia to category 2 as it is currently classified.

Methyl bromide is a difficult case. It has not been classified as flammable by any regulation EIGA is aware of. The literature mentions ranges between 8.6-20.0 vol.% and 13.5-14.5 vol.% according to the source. In the latter case, methyl bromide would join ammonia, in the first case it would become extremely flammable. These differences are explained by the fact that there is no universally recognised method for determining the flammability of gases. EIGA suggests keeping methyl bromide in the NOTE 1. It is to be noted that this product is to be phased out by 2005 because of its ozone depletion potential.

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