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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 Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (Third session, 10-12 July 2002)

GLOBAL HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS

Use of signal words on cylinders

Transmitted by the European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA)

Introduction

Further to the informal document INF.8 tabled during the second session of 12th December 2001, EIGA wishes to formally submit a proposal referring to the use of paragraph 37 concerning signal words of Chapter 1.3 for the table 2 of label elements in the chapters relating to gases under pressure.

Proposal

Add the following note after the tables on label elements in the various chapters:

"NOTE: When (flammable, oxidising, etc.) gases are packaged under pressure in a cylinder, the use of signal words is discretionary."

Justification

The package, a cylinder, conveys a warning in itself. Otherwise it would not have been chosen as a symbol. EIGA does not believe that signal words add value to this specific type of package the gas industry is using. Gases, besides being under pressure, can be flammable, oxidising, corrosive, toxic, carcinogenic, mutagenic, reprotoxic and combinations of these. This could lead to repetitive danger and/or warning signal words that would confuse the user.

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