DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP)

MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE

Montreal, 18 to 22 April 2005

Agenda Item 2: Development of recommendations for amendments to the *Technical Instructions* for incorporation in the 2007/2008 edition
2.4: Part 4 — Packing Instructions

ICAO PI 602 VS UN PI 620

(Presented by M. Hinoul)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Belgian Civil Aviation authority has been informed about a possible contradiction between the packing instructions for Infectious substances Category A in the ICAO Technical Instructions and The UN Recommendations. This contradiction has to do with the 95 kPa pressure differential.

1.2 During ICAO DGP WG/04 working paper 02 was discussed. Although the Panel agreed there is contradiction between the packing instructions, they could not conclude which one is the correct one. Please find attached DGP-WG05-WP/2 in Annex A.

Therefore all panel members were invited to consult their national packing authorities with the question which of the concerned packing instructions is the correct one, and realistic and most feasible in practice.

1.3 In Annex B the point of view of the Belgian Packing Institute.

1.4 Other Panel members are invited to provide the point of view of their national packing authority to the Belgian delegation in order to prepare a final paper for DGP/20.

— — — — — — — —

APPENDIX A

Dangerous Goods Panel – Working Group 04
Abu Dhabi 4 - 8 October 2004

ICAO PI 602VS. UN PI 620

(Presented by CAA Belgium)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Belgian Civil Aviation authority has been informed about a possible contradiction between the packing instructions for Infectious substances Category A in the ICAO Technical Instructions and the UN Recommendations. This contradiction has to do with the 95 kPa pressure differential.

1.2 Packing Instruction 602 of the Technical Instructions reads as follows:

"The primary receptacle or the secondary packaging used for infectious substances must be capable of withstanding, without leakage, an internal pressure which produces a pressure differential of not less than 95 kPa (0.95 bar, 13.8 lb/in²) **in the range** of -40°C to +55°C (-40°F to 130°F)."

1.3 Packing Instruction 620 of the UN Recommendations reads as follows:

"Whatever the intended temperature of the consignment, the primary receptacle or the secondary packaging shall be capable of withstanding without leakage an internal pressure producing a pressure differential of not less than 95 kPa **and temperatures in the range** -40°C to +55°C."

1.4 Packing Instruction 602 provides one single condition (i.e. a pressure differential of 95 kPa linked to the temperature range -40 °C to +55 °C), while the wording of the UN Recommendations Packing Instruction 620 could be interpreted as two separate conditions (i.e. pressure differential of 95 kPa at whatever temperature AND the package must be capable to withstand a temperature range of -40 °C to +55 °C).

1.5 This difference in wording poses a problem for the competent authorities for the testing and certification of packages.

1.6 As we believe that the UN originally adopted the requirement of pressure differential of 95 kPa from the Technical Instructions, we feel that the existing text in the UN Recommendations should be changed in accordance with the ICAO Technical Instructions.

2. PROPOSAL

2.1 If the Panel agrees that the wording of Packing Instruction 602 of the Technical Instructions is the correct one, it is proposed that the Secretary of the ICAO Dangerous Goods Panel should introduce a working paper to the UN Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods.

2.2 We believe that this action towards the UN should be taken by the air mode itself (read the Secretary of the ICAO Dangerous Goods Panel) rather than by an individual country because this condition

of packaging is typical for air transport.

— — — — — — — —

APPENDIX B

Point of view of Belgian Packing Institute

Marc HINOUL
Dangerous Goods Coordinator
Belgian Civil Aviation Authority
Vooruitgangstraat 80/5
1030 BRUSSELS

U/Ref.: O/Ref.: 05/MW/015 DATUM : 25/03/2005

Dear Sir,

Concerns the problem of interpretation of the pressure differential test foreseen in UN PI 650 /ICAO PI 602 and IATA PI 602.

The point of view of the Belgium Packaging Institute is that the exact way of writing is the version taken up in the IATA PI 602, namely

"*The primary or the secondary packaging used for infectious substances must be capable of withstanding, without leakage, an internal pressure which produces a pressure differential of not less than 95 kPa(0.95 bar, 13.8 lb/in²) in the range of -40°C to +55°C (-40°F to 130°F)*"

It is clear that the purpose of this test means that in any case during transport if there is a difference in height (air transport), the recipients must be capable to be leaktighted and this has to be by any occuring temperature. This is a verification for the security of the persons handling this kind of products.

Effectuating a test at 95 kPa and beside that put the recipient once at -40°C and +55°C has no sense.
Which verification do you have to do by the temperature test????
Is it still nice looking?? Is it ……???
What is the meaning of the safety in this case????

Sincerely

M.Wittebolle
General Manager

— END —