



WORKING PAPER

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

Auckland, New Zealand, 4 to 8 May 2009

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

Agenda Item 2.6: Part 6 — Packaging Nomenclature, Marking, Requirements and Tests

PACKING INSTRUCTIONS AND TEST REQUIREMENTS FOR INFECTIOUS SUBSTANCES

(Presented by K. Vermeersch)

SUMMARY

This working paper seeks the input, comments and the experience from the DGP-WG in order to be able to make a formal proposal for DGP/22.

Action by the DGP-WG is in paragraph 2.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 During WG/08 the difficulties experienced by test institutes, packaging manufacturers and shippers in interpreting the requirements pertaining to the test requirements in packing instruction 602 and mainly in packing instruction 650, were raised. It was recognized that at present different interpretations have resulted in packagings which may pass the test in one State and fail in another. It was agreed that clarification was needed.

1.2 Since then, in cooperation with the Belgian packaging institute and a major Belgian shipper, we have tried to analyse the different problems which we will need to resolve. A short presentation to highlight the major problems will be presented to the DGP-WG.

2. ACTION BY THE DGP-WG

2.1 The DGP-WG is invited to provide input and comments on the following topics and questions:

- a) Is the DGP-WG of the opinion that the hydraulic pressure test is the only test which should be used to demonstrate that a flexible packaging is capable to withstand an internal pressure?

- b) How do we have to perform the hydraulic pressure test? Part 6;4.5.3 specifies that plastic packagings must be subjected to the test pressure for 30 minutes. Do we believe this is adequate for flexible bags? Clear standards and criteria need to be developed.
- c) Do we believe that alternative test methods should be allowed (e.g. external vacuum test)? If yes, under which conditions and what are the test criteria?
- d) Should the tests for pressure and temperature requirements be separated? How do you have to perform these tests and what are the criteria?
- e) Are additional requirements needed if dry ice is used as refrigerant, especially if non-rigid packagings are used as intermediate packaging.

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