

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

Seventeenth session

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Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda

UPDATING OF THE THIRD REVISED EDITION OF THE GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS (GHS)

Physical hazards

Comments on criteria for flammable gases in 2.2.5

Transmitted by the European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA)

Introduction

1. EIGA is working on the implementation of the GHS in Europe and spotted a small mistake in the criterion for the flammability of gas mixtures in 2.2.5.

$$\sum_i^n \frac{V_i\%}{T_{ci}} \geq 1$$

2. This criterion has been derived from the criterion in ISO 10156 for a gas mixture to be considered as non-flammable into a criterion for a gas mixture to be considered flammable without adjusting the higher/lower/equal symbols.

$$\sum_i^n \frac{A_i'}{T_{ci}} \times 100 \leq 1$$

3. The way the criterion for flammability is expressed in 2.2.5 is also in contradiction with the definition of T_{ci} in the same section:

“the maximum concentration of a flammable gas in nitrogen at which the mixture is still not flammable in air”

Proposal

4. EIGA proposes to eliminate the equal symbol in the criterion:

$$\sum_i^n \frac{V_i\%}{T_{ci}} > 1$$
