

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**

2 December 2010

Twentieth session

Geneva, 7–9 December 2010

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

Other business

Request for consultative status by the Australian Explosives Industry and Safety Group Incorporated (AEISG)

Note by the secretariat

The secretariat has received the attached application from AEISG for consideration at the December 2010 session.



Australian Explosives Industry and Safety Group Inc.

ABN 95 177 668 265

Member Companies

Orica Australia Pty Ltd
Dyno Nobel Asia Pacific Pty Ltd
Maxam Australia Pty Ltd
Downer EDI Mining -Blasting Services Pty Ltd
Applied Explosives Technology Pty Ltd
Thales Limited
Johnex Explosives

17 May 2010

Secretariat,
UN Subcommittee of Experts on Transport of Dangerous Goods,
Palais des Nations,
Geneva.
Switzerland.

Dear Sir

The Australian Explosives Industry and Safety Group Inc. (AEISG) would like to participate in the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and Globally Harmonized System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals, and their Sub-Committees.

To achieve this, please find attached an application for consultative status, to enable AEISG to contribute to the work of the sub-committees for the security and safety of dangerous goods.

We believe the enclosed application should be adequate for the Subcommittee to consider, however, if it can be arranged, with your assistance Mr Barry Morssinkhof from AEISG would like to attend the June 2010 meeting to respond to any questions that Subcommittee members may have. If you do have any questions concerning our application, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Richard Morony,
Chief Executive Officer.

Application Form for Consultative Status.

1. Name of organisation

Australian Explosives Industry and Safety Group Incorporated (AEISG)

The AEISG is incorporated in NSW, Australia as an association and a copy of this incorporation is attached.

2. Contact information

- Headquarters address
3 Mayfield Avenue, Pymble, NSW 2073
- Postal address
3 Mayfield Avenue, Pymble, NSW 2073
- Contact phone,
0400 357 763
- Fax, email,
Richard_morony@aeisg.org.au
- Web site
www.aeisg.org.au
- Name and position of contact person.
Richard Morony, Chief Executive Officer

3. Affiliated organisations

AEISG is an independent group of explosive manufacturers that represents the safety activities of the explosives industry across the AsiaPacific region and most notably in the western and southern Pacific countries. All are based within Australia but member companies are involved in explosive operations in the emerging and growing economies of South East Asia, particularly India, China, Indonesia and the Philippines, where mining is becoming an important part of the regions economic development.

AEISG is eligible for and has been granted associate membership of SAFEX, the global industry group with the specific task of improving safety in the explosives industry worldwide.

Neither SAFEX nor any other organisation associated with AEISG is affiliated with the Sub-Committee or ECOSOC.

4. The purpose of the organization;

The goal of AEISG is to continuously improve the level of safety within the commercial explosive industry in the manufacture, transport, storage, handling and use of explosives and their precursors throughout Australia and New Zealand, and within countries in Asia in which AEISG members operate. This is done by AEISG:-

- representing the commercial explosive industry nationally and internationally to regulatory bodies on safety, security, occupational health and safety standards and protecting the environment involving commercial explosives and their precursors;

- working with regulatory authorities to promote consistency in legislation and regulations governing the commercial explosives industry;
- by creating an environment where members can discuss common interests and problems and exchange opinions and ideas;
- promoting common best practice in the manufacture, storage, transportation, handling and use of commercial explosives and their associated precursors and raw materials.
- developing and implementing industry codes of practice for the commercial explosives industry.
- providing expert support for the developing/updating of Australian Standards of relevance to the explosives industry

5. Activities of the organization.

AEISG is active across Australia, South East Asia and the South Pacific in the following areas:

- Working with governments to advance the development and application of safety and security standards;
- Developing codes of safe working practice for use by the commercial explosives industry;
- Facilitating the application of the United Nations Model Regulations as they apply to blasting explosives and accessories;
- Coordinating the activities of its members to ensure a high level of safety integrity in the industry;
- Carrying out research on matters of interest to the development of safety regulations.

Key publications produced by AEISG to date include the following all of which are relevant to the work of the Sub-Committee.

- **Code of Practice. Precursors for Explosives.** This COP covers the selection and operation of sites for the storage and handling of ammonium nitrate emulsions, suspensions and gels. The COP has been adopted into regulation in several Australian states and territories and is widely applied by member companies in the Pacific region (eg Fiji, New Zealand) and South east Asia (Hong Kong, Papua New Guinea, Malaysia, Indonesia, India, China)
- **Code of Practice. Mobile Manufacturing Units.** This COP covers the manufacture and operation of vehicles for the delivery of bulk commercial explosives to blast holes in mining, quarrying and construction applications. This COP is heavily referenced in Australia, the Pacific and South East Asia.
- **Code of Practice. Elevated Temperature and Reactive Ground.** This COP covers the procedures that need be adopted to ensure commercial explosives can be safely used in ground that may be at elevated temperatures or that may react with ammonium nitrate based explosives. This COP has over recent years has become an industry standard and is now widely referenced by the mining and quarrying community.

AEISG is currently working on a number of draft COPs which will cover the storage of ammonium nitrate and a procedure for determining if ammonium nitrate can be deemed to be Division 5.1 with UN No 1942.

Research carried out by AEISG and its members resulted in several papers considered by the UN Working Group on Explosives when it was considering the amendments applicable to ammonium nitrate emulsions, suspensions and gels (UN No 3375). These papers included:

- UN/SCETDG/24/INF.45 “A review of the modified vented pipe test” in which aspects like heat input, heated surface, absorbed heat flux of TS8(d) test and MVPT, Koenen tests and tank containers were compared;
- UN/SCETDG/24/INF.44 - Proposed procedure and criterion for the modified vented pipe test. Most of the recommendations were incorporated into TS8(d)(ii) in the UN *Manual of Tests and Criteria. Fifth revised edition*.

These papers provided the first reliable scientifically based information on ANEs to the UN Working Group on Explosives.

AEISG and its member companies continue to work with regulators in Australia, the Pacific and South East Asia to facilitate uniform application of safety laws concerning commercial explosives. As part of this activity AEISG has made regular contributions to meetings of IGUS EPP and international Chief Inspectors of Explosives. The most recent contributions were made at these meeting in Osaka, Japan in September 2009.

AEISG is currently sponsoring a major undertaking by its members in determining the explosive characteristics of ammonium nitrate. The first round of testing has been completed and it is anticipated that large scale testing in establishing reliable donor to acceptor characteristics will be carried out in the next twelve months. The results of these tests will be of significant importance to the global explosive industry and to those manufacturing, transporting and storing ammonium nitrate.

6. Confirmation of interest in the goals and objectives of the Sub-Committee.

Over the last 10 years AEISG and its members have made valuable contributions to the various global working groups on ANEs and the ongoing interest in this subject by the Committee of Experts is confirmation and testament of the valuable contribution being made by AEISG to the goals and objectives of the Committee of Experts.

The work currently being undertaken by AEISG on ammonium nitrate is also proving to be of significant interest to the Committee of Experts and as this work develops it is critical that AEISG have direct input into the deliberations and work of the Committee of Experts

7. Confirmation of the activities of the organization at the national, regional or international level

AEISG's activities at national, regional and international level include:

- The application of the Code of Practices in several nations in the Pacific and Asia. The Precursor for Explosives is widely used in New Zealand, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Indonesia, China and India.
- The adoption of the Code of Practices into law in several Australian states and its application by administration in most others;
- Active participation in IGUS EPP meetings and International Chief Inspectors of Explosives meetings
- Active participation in SAFEX meetings and conferences.

- Represents explosives industry on Australian Forum of Explosives Regulators (AFER)
- Represents the domestic explosives industry on the National Industry Reference Group (NIRG); a national group dealing with matters of chemical security

8. Copies of the annual reports with financial statements.

The following publications are attached:

Annual Report 2008/09

Financial Statement 2008/09

9. The governing body of the organization.

The operation of AEISG is under the management of Mr Richard Morony, the Chief Executive Officer. He is supported by a governing body made up of:

Mr Peter Howe (Chairman), Maxam Australia Pty Ltd

Ms Svetlana Vassilyeva, Dyno Nobel Asia Pacific Pty Ltd

Mr Barry Morssinkhof, Downer EDI Mining - Blasting Services Pty Ltd

Mr Paul Harrison, Orica Australia Pty Ltd

10. Membership of the organization.

Members of AEISG include the major manufacturers of commercial explosives in Australia, the Pacific and Asia Pacific. Members are current domicile in Australia but a number of members have responsibilities for operations throughout Australia, the Pacific and Asia. Although these companies have strong links into their international parents they are responsible for the safety and operations within their regions. Details of each member can be found on their respective web sites.

Applied Explosives Technology Pty Ltd	www.aetsfx.com/
Downer EDI Mining - Blasting Services Pty Ltd	www.downeredi.com.au/
Dyno Nobel Asia Pacific Pty Ltd	www.dynonobel.com
Johnex Explosives	www.johnex.com.au/
Maxam Australia Pty Ltd	www.maxam-int.com.au/
Orica Australia Pty Ltd	www.orica.com/
Thales Limited	www.thalesgroup.com.au/

Dyno, Maxam and Orica have significant influence throughout Asia and the Pacific (including New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, India, Hong Kong and China) and in so doing actively promote the work of AEISG and the full adoption of its COPs.

11. Constitution and/or by-laws of the organization.

A copy of AEISG's constitution is attached.

12. Publications of relevance to the work of the Sub-Committee

The following copies of publications are attached as samples of the work AEISG is carrying out and illustrates the relevance of the work AEISG is doing to UN Working Group on Explosives.

- Code of Practice. Precursors for Explosives.
- Code of Practice. Mobile Manufacturing Units.