



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS REGULATIONS BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

[49 CFR Parts 173, 177]

[Docket No. HM-34; Notice 69-26]

TRANSPORTATION OF HAZARDOUS
MATERIALS

Liquefied Petroleum Gas in Cargo
Tanks Constructed of Quenched
and Tempered Steel

The Hazardous Materials Regulations Board is considering amending §§ 173.315 (a) (1) Note 15, 173.427(a) (4), and 177.817(a) (2) of the Department's Hazardous Materials Regulations to make reference to an ASTM copper strip corrosion standard for shipments of liquefied petroleum gas in MC 330 and MC 331 cargo tanks constructed of quenched and tempered steel in place of the present reference to National Gas Processors Association Publication 2140.

The purpose of reference to NGPA 2140 specification was to distinguish between those liquefied petroleum gases that may be corrosive and those that are noncorrosive as they relate to any contribution to stress corrosion cracking in cargo tanks constructed of quenched and tempered steels.

Two petitioners have requested the Board to clarify the application of National Gas Processors Association Publication 2140. They contend that reference to NGPA 2140 in its entirety is not altogether appropriate in that certain provisions thereof have no relationship to preventing stress corrosion which is the concern of the requirement. Rather it would be more appropriate to refer to the requirement in NGPA 2140 on corrosive compounds. Upon review it has been found that reference to the volatile sulfur requirements in NGPA 2140 is not necessary since it does not indicate amount or presence of hydrogen sulfide in the liquefied petroleum gas being tested. Hydrogen sulfide is indicated only in the copper strip corrosion test. Accordingly, for cargo tanks constructed of quenched and tempered steel, it is proposed to amend § 173.315(a) (1) Note 15 to require that liquefied petroleum gas meet only the classification 1 corrosion criterion (copper strip method) set forth in the American Society for Testing and Materials Standard D1838-64. Further reference to NGPA 2140 will not be necessary. Amendments to §§ 173.427(a) (4) and 177.817(a) (2) would coordinate shipping paper requirements with this change.

Interested persons are invited to give their views on this proposal. Communications should identify the docket number and be submitted in duplicate to the Secretary, Hazardous Materials Regulations Board, Department of Transportation, 400 Sixth Street SW., Washington, D.C. 20590. Communications received on or before October 28, 1969, will be considered before final action is taken on the proposal. All comments received will be available for examination by interested persons at the Office of the Secretary, Hazardous Materials Regulations Board, both before and after the closing date for comments.

In consideration of the foregoing, it is proposed to amend 49 CFR Parts 173 and 177 as follows:

I. Part 173 would be amended as follows:

A. In § 173.315 Note 15 following the table in paragraph (a) (1) would be amended to read as follows:

§ 173.315 Compressed gases in cargo tanks and portable tank containers.

- (a) * * *
- (1) * * *

NOTE 15: Specs. MC 330 and MC 331 cargo tanks constructed of other than quenched and tempered steel (NQT) are authorized for all grades of liquefied petroleum gas. Only grades of liquefied petroleum gases determined to be "noncorrosive" are authorized in specs. MC 330 and MC 331 cargo tanks constructed of quenched and tempered steel (QT). "Noncorrosive" means the corrosiveness of the gas does not exceed the limitations for classification 1 of the ASTM Copper Strip Classifications when tested in accordance with ASTM D1838-64, "Copper Strip Corrosion by Liquefied Petroleum (LP) Gases". (For (QT) and (NQT) marking requirements, see § 177.823(b) (5) of this chapter. For special shipping paper requirements, see §§ 173.427(a) (4) and 177.817(a) (2) of this chapter.)

B. In § 173.427 paragraph (a) (4) would be amended to read as follows:

§ 173.427 Shipping papers.

- (a) * * *

(4) For each shipment of "noncorrosive" liquefied petroleum gas in specs. MC 330 and MC 331 cargo tanks constructed of quenched and tempered steel the shipper must also show "NONCORROSIVE" to indicate suitability for shipment in such tanks as authorized by § 173.315(a) (1) Table Note 15.

II. Part 177 would be amended as follows:

A. In § 177.817 paragraph (a) (2) would be amended to read as follows:

§ 177.817 Shipping papers.

- (a) * * *
- (2) A carrier must not accept for transportation or transport liquefied petroleum gas in specs. MC 330 and MC 331 cargo tanks constructed of quenched and tempered steel unless the shipping paper is marked "NONCORROSIVE" to indicate suitability of shipment in such tanks as authorized by § 173.315(a) (1) Table Note 15 of this chapter.

This proposal is made under the authority of sections 831-835 of title 18, United States Code and section 9 of the Department of Transportation Act (49 U.S.C. 1657).

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F. C. TURNER,
Administrator,
Federal Highway Administration.

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