

**Decree of the Ministry of Transport and Communications
on the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road**

(277/2002; amendments up to 313/2003 included)

1 §

Scope of application

- (1) This Decree applies to the transport of dangerous goods by road.
- (2) This Decree also applies to tanks of special vehicles used to transfer fuel for the purposes of aviation as provided for in sections 4 and 11.
- (3) This Decree does not apply to the transport of Class 6.2 substances such as liquid manure and corresponding waste for the own use of agriculture.

2 § (313/2003)

Definitions

- Unless otherwise provided for below, in this Decree and its Appendices:
- 1) *the packaging* means packagings approved for the transport of dangerous goods, IBC packaging and overpacks;
 - 2) a *tank-vehicle* means a vehicle with one or more fixed tanks and constructed for the transport of liquids or gas or powdery or granular substances;
 - 3) a *tank* means tank-vehicles, demountable tanks, battery-vehicles, MEGCs, UN tanks and tank containers;
 - 4) a *vehicle* means any power-driven vehicle intended for use on the road, being complete or incomplete, having at least four wheels and a permissible maximum design speed of over 25 kilometres per hour with the exceptions of an agricultural tractor, a forestry tractor, an off-road vehicle, a power-driven work machine and a trailer; in the application of provisions

on packagings, tanks and tank containers as well as of provisions on their marking and labelling and on the marking and labelling of a vehicle, also an agricultural and a forestry tractor, an off-road vehicle, a power-driven work machine and their trailers shall be deemed vehicles;

- 5) a *motor vehicle* means a towing vehicle;
- 6) a *transport unit* means a towing vehicle or a combination of a towing vehicle and a trailer.

3 §

Annexes to the Decree

- (1) Annexes A – C provide for substances and articles to be accepted for carriage only under special conditions due to their dangerousness or to be excluded from carriage.
- (2) Annex A contains general provisions as well as provisions on dangerous substances and articles.
- (3) Annex B contains provisions on transport mediums and transport.
- (4) Annex C contains provisions on transport in vehicles transporting passengers, local transport, transport in busses and coaches and on other special transport.

4 §

Tanks of tank-vehicles used at an airport

- (1) The provisions of Chapter 6.8 of Annex A apply to the tanks referred to in section 1 (2). However, the radius of convexity of the shell wall may derogate from the provisions of points 6.8.2.1.18 and 6.8.2.1.19 and the shut-

- off devices of the discharge pipe-socket from the provisions of point 6.8.2.2.2 if the safety level referred to in the said points is maintained.
- (2) In addition to the provisions of subsection 1, the special provisions of Chapters 4.3 and 6.8 of Annex A on flammable liquids apply to the inspections and use of tanks.
 - (3) Tank-vehicles shall be marked and labelled with markings and danger labels complying with the provisions of Chapters 4.3, 5.3 and 6.8.

5 §

IBC packagings and tank containers used to store and transport liquid motor fuels in agriculture and forestry, earth moving as well as in other corresponding operations

- (1) The following demountable tanks in accordance with the Decision of the Ministry of Trade and Industry on Flammable Liquids (313/1985) are deemed to comply with the structural requirements provided for an IBC packaging or a tank container when used to store and transport liquid motor fuels in connection with agriculture, forestry, earth moving and other corresponding operations:
 - 1) demountable rectangular or cylindrical steel tanks complying with section 44 of the said Decision with a capacity of not less than 0.45 m³ but not exceeding 1.5 m³ in the form of IBC packagings referred to in Chapter 6.5 of Annex A;
 - 2) demountable cylindrical steel tanks complying with section 41 of the said Decision and with standard SFS 2733 with a capacity of not less than 1.5 m³ but not exceeding 3.0 m³ in the form of IBC packagings referred to in Chapter 6.5 of Annex A; and
 - 3) demountable cylindrical steel tanks complying with section 41 of the said Decision and with standard SFS 2733 with a capacity exceeding 3.0 m³ in the form of tank containers referred to in Chapter 6.8 of Annex A.

- (2) The equipment of IBC packagings and tank-containers referred to in subsection 1 (1–3) may comply with the Decision of the Ministry of Trade and Industry referred to in subsection 1 with the exception of the air vent, which shall be replaced by a pressure balancing device. The IBC packagings and tank-containers may, however, not be dischargable or fillable through the lower part of the body. The IBC packagings and tank-containers may be equipped with leakage basins.
- (3) The provisions on type-approval and periodic inspections of Chapter 6.5 of Annex A in the case of IBC packagings and those of Chapter 6.8 in the case of tank-containers apply to the IBC packagings and tank-containers referred to in subsections 1 and 2. The marking plate shall, in addition to the information required in Chapters 6.5 and 6.8, include the information required in the Decision of the Ministry of Trade and Industry referred to in subsection 1.
- (4) The VAK inspection body type-approves the IBC packagings and tank-containers referred to in subsections 1 and 2. The VAK inspection body also carries out the inspections and periodic inspections required prior to the putting into service of an IBC packaging or a tank container.
- (5) With the exception of the provisions of subsections 2–4, all the provisions of Annexes A and B apply to the IBC packagings and tank-containers referred to in this section.

6 § (313/2003)

Keeping of documents relating to the indication of conformity of packagings and tanks

An inspection body shall keep the documents relating to the indication of conformity of packagings and tanks referred to in Annex A of this Decree with their appendices for at least 10

years, unless otherwise provided in the provisions of Annex A.

7 §

Routing restrictions

- (1) The routing restrictions on the transport of dangerous goods referred to in section 13 (2) of the Act on Transport of Dangerous Goods (719/1994) apply to the dangerous goods belonging to groups A and B of Chapter 1.9 of Annex A and their amounts.
- (2) The routing restrictions are indicated with traffic signs.
- (3) Notwithstanding the routing restrictions, dangerous goods may, for a special reason, be transported in a restricted area by permission of the chief of the police district issued for a set period.

8 §

Derogations in emergency operations

In urgent emergency operations the provisions of this Decree may be derogated from if compliance with the provisions hampers the emergency operations.

9 §

Derogations

- (1) With regard to packagings and tanks other than those used for the transport of radioactive materials, the Safety Technology Authority may, upon application, in an individual case and subject to conditions deemed necessary by it, grant derogations from the provisions of this Decree. It may also, subject to conditions deemed necessary by it, grant derogations from the provisions relating to the material of vehicles and containers used to transport explosives.
- (2) The STUK may, upon application, in

an individual case and subject to conditions deemed necessary by it, grant derogations from the provisions of the Annexes of this Decree.

- (3) With regard to cases other than those referred to in subsections 1 and 2, the Ministry of Transport and Communications may, upon application, in an individual case, grant a derogation from the provisions of this Decree.
- (4) The derogations referred to in subsections 1-3 may be granted only if there are special compelling reasons thereto or if compliance with the provisions causes unreasonable costs or considerable detriment. In addition, the granting of a derogation requires that the required safety can be achieved by other means.

10 §

Entry into force

- (1) This Decree enters into force on 1 May 2002.
- (2) This Decree repeals the Decision of the Ministry of Transport on the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road with Annexes issued on 1 October 1997 (660/1997) with later amendments.
- (3) Measures necessary for the implementation of this Decree may be taken prior to its entry into force.

11 §

Transitional provisions

- (1) The provisions in force upon the entry into force of this Decree may be applied until 31 December 2002.
- (2) Notwithstanding section 4, a tank referred to in section 4 and put into service prior to 1 October 1997 may be used if the tank fulfils the provisions in force upon putting the tank into service. The periodic inspection as well as the leakproofness test and check of operation are, however,

- carried out in accordance with Chapter 6.8 of Annex A at test pressures in accordance with the provisions in force on 30 September 1997.
- (3) Demountable tanks referred to in section 5 and put into service prior to 1 January 1999 which fulfil the requirements of the provisions in force upon the entry into force of this Decree may be transported until 1 January 2005.
- (4) Tanks approved for service subject to a special permit prior to 1 January 1999 are deemed to fulfil the requirements of the provisions in force upon the entry into force of this Decree. All the provisions of Annexes A and B of this Decree apply to these tanks.
- (5) Upon the entry into force of this Decree, traffic sign 318 provided for in section 21 of the Decree on the Restrictions on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (182/1982) may be used to indicate a prohibition of transport of dangerous goods of group A stated in point 1.9.5.2 of Annex A of this Decree until the end of the year 2004.
- (6) Traffic sign 318 relating to a restriction on the transport of dangerous goods in use upon the entry into force of this Decree together with auxiliary plate 849 in use upon the entry into force of this Decree may be used to indicate a prohibition of through transport of dangerous goods of group B stated in point 1.9.5.3 of Annex A of this Decree until the end of the year 2004.