

## **A16/UN N.4 Proposed combined method**

Using a 20 mm cube as normally used in the A16 test, the test item will be heated to 140°C and held at this temperature for 24 hours. The oven and test item temperatures are continuously monitored. After the 24 hour period, the oven will be programmed to heat up to 400°C or to approximately 10°C above the melting temperature whichever is the lower at a rate of 0.5°C/minute, again the oven and test item temperatures will be monitored.

The main advantages for adopting this procedure is that it substantially reduces the amount of test item required and this essentially combines the requirements of both test methods for use in Reach and CLP classification.

A possible disadvantage is that the authorities may not accept this approach as it deviates from the UN N.4 test method. However, a scientific argument will be included in the test report to justify this. If a positive result is obtained at the 140° stage then the full UN N.4 test would probably be required.

## **Test Item Usage**

It is a requirement under GLP that test item usage is documented throughout testing. We use a standard form for recording test item usage.

Additionally, any test item remaining after testing, including any material that has been used for testing will be returned to the consortia.

## **Explosive/Oxidising Properties Testing**

### **EXPLOSIVE PROPERTIES**

In order to minimise the amount of testing required and hence reduce the amount of test item required, we propose to test the worst case scenario sample for explosive properties, The sample with the highest number of structural alerts is used and this data is read across for the other test items. If a positive result is obtained for this sample then the next worse case sample will be used until a negative result is obtained.

### **OXIDISING PROPERTIES**

A similar procedure to that detailed above will be followed for the explosive properties testing, except that both a liquid and a solid test item will be tested as different procedures are followed.