

7th Progress Report of the Informal Group on Plastic Glazing

Since the 105th GRSG the Informal Group of Plastic Glazing has had two meetings. The 8th meeting was on 27-28 November 2013 at OICA in Paris/France and the 9th meeting on 25-26 March 2014 at VDA in Berlin/Germany. Both meetings were arranged in order to come to a final result for the wiper test concerning abrasion and to finish the discussions for the regulatory text of the proposal.

At the 8th meeting the high temperature test was found necessary for laminated rigid plastic panes.

The haze value in the abrasion test is determined by the difference of the haze values before and after abrasion. The maximum size of initial haze which should be allowed was intensively discussed.

A new annex for laminated rigid plastic windscreens has been introduced and was finally discussed in the 9th meeting. For this kind of glazing new tests like radiation resistance, high temperature, resistance to temperature changes and ball drop test with a 2260 g ball were found necessary.

Concerning the possibility of a wiper test the two subgroups for on-road testing and laboratory test showed their results so far and promised for the 9th meeting to deliver correlation results from round robin tests and analyzing on-road values for several vehicles. The "Provisions regarding the installation of safety glazing on vehicles" have been reproduced in order to clarify the requirements of Annex 21 of the current UN Regulation No. 43. New definitions about exterior forward-facing glazing and interior glazing have been introduced for that reason.

At the 9th meeting the results of the two subgroups were presented with proposals for number of wiper cycles and limit haze values. Because of the different interpretation of the assessments in the task forces a long discussion happened, which resulted in a not yet finally fixed value for the number of wiper cycles and the size of limit haze.

That is the reason why those values will be in brackets in the informal document of the draft proposal for amendments to Regulation No. 43 concerning rigid plastic windscreens and rigid plastic laminated panes and windscreens. There will be another meeting of the informal group of plastic glazing at Volkswagen in Wolfsburg/Germany on 17-18 June 2014 where a final decision will be taken.

In the ISO work there are some activities concerning ISO15082 for examination of plastic panes. The measurement of abrasion with the Taber method should be performed with qualified Taber wheels, which makes a correction factor necessary. The ISO group is still doing investigations in this respect.

The regulation text of the new Annexes 17, 18 and 19 has been finalized in the 9th meeting. Changes which happened by the draft proposal of the three new annexes must also be considered in the plastic glazing Annexes 14 and 16 of the existing UN Regulation No 43. The informal group plastic glazing is of the opinion to do this later on only when the proposal has been accepted by WP 29.
