ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling

Fifty-ninth session
Geneva, 31 March - 4 April 2008
Item 4(e) of the provisional agenda

REGULATION No. 48
(Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices)

Interpretation of paragraphs 5.7., 5.11. and 5.24. of the Regulation

Proposal for Supplement 2 to the 04 series of amendments to Regulation No. 48

Submitted by the experts from the Working Party "Brussels 1952" (GTB), International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (OICA), India and France */

The text reproduced below was prepared by the experts from GTB, OICA, India and France in order to insert into Regulation No. 48 provisions which cover the requirements regarding electrical connections, color visibility and photometry for front or rear position lamps if such lamps are reciprocally incorporated with another lamp or function. It is based on a document without a symbol (informal document No. GRE-58-23/Rev.1), distributed during the fifty-eighth GRE session (see report ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRE/58, para. 16). The modifications to the current text of Regulation No. 48 are marked in **bold** or strikethrough characters.

*/ In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2006-2010 (ECE/TRANS/166/Add.1, programme activity 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.
A. PROPOSAL

Paragraphs 5.7. to 5.7.1.2., amend to read:

"5.7. Grouped, combined or reciprocally incorporated lamps

5.7.1. Lamps may be grouped, combined or reciprocally incorporated with one another provided that all requirements regarding colour, position, orientation, geometric visibility, electrical connections and other requirements, if any, are fulfilled.

5.7.1.1. The photometric and colorimetric requirements of a lamp shall be fulfilled when all other functions are switched OFF.

However, when a front or rear position lamp is reciprocally incorporated with one or more other function(s), the requirements regarding colour of each of these other functions shall be fulfilled when the reciprocally incorporated function(s) and the front or rear position lamps are switched ON, except in the case where provisions of paragraph 5.11.2. are fulfilled.

The measurement of the colour is not part of this Regulation and shall be performed during the type approval process of the lamps.

5.7.1.2. However, Where stop lamps and direction indicator lamps, are grouped, any horizontal or vertical straight line…"

Paragraphs 5.11. to 5.11.2., amend to read:

"5.11. The electrical connections must be such that the front and rear position lamps, the end-outline marker lamps, if they exist, the side-marker lamps, if they exist, and the rear registration plate lamp can only be switched ON and OFF simultaneously.

5.11.1. This condition does not apply:
(a) when front and rear position lamps are switched ON, as well as side-marker lamps when combined or reciprocally incorporated with said lamps, as parking lamps; or
(b) when side-marker lamps are permitted to flash.

5.11.2. However, when front or rear position lamps are reciprocally incorporated with another lamp/function, the respective front or rear position lamp may be switched OFF and substituted by another lamp/function within the common lamp body during the entire period of activation of the substituting lamp/function on the relevant side of the vehicle, provided that the substituting lamp/function meets the following requirements:
(a) geometric visibility of the respective position lamp; and
(b) minimum photometric values according to the angles of light distribution of the respective position lamp."
Paragraph 5.24., amend to read:

"5.24. Any temporary fail-safe replacement of the light-signalling function of a rear position lamp is allowed, provided that the replacement function in case of a failure is similar in colour, main intensity and position to the function that has ceased to operate and provided that the replacement device remains operational in its original safety function. During replacement, a tell-tale on the dashboard (see paragraph 2.18. of this Regulation) shall indicate occurrence of a temporary replacement and need for repair."

B. JUSTIFICATION

OICA understands that the intention of document ECE/TRANS/GRE/2007/55 is that the provisions of paragraphs 5.7.1.1. and 5.11. should be alternative to each other. However this is not entirely clear from the proposed text. OICA proposed text is intended to clarify the original intention by clearly specifying the alternatives.

GTB, OICA, India and France proposed additional text intended:
(a) to clarify that the colour of the lamp is controlled during the tests for the approval of the devices (GTB, India);
(b) to improve the wording of the proposed paragraph 5.11.2. (GTB).

As a matter of fact this proposal is not aimed at answering the question raised by Japan in informal document No. GRE-56-22, which could be answered separately.