



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2003/36
13 January 2003

ENGLISH
Original: FRENCH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
(Bern, 24-28 March 2003)

PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO RID AND ADR

Chapter 1.6

Transitional measure for the application of special provision TE1

Transmitted by the Government of France*

SUMMARY

Analytical summary:	Special provision TE1 provides for a pressure gauge or another suitable indicator in the space between the bursting disc and the safety valve. A transitional measure should be introduced so as to enable existing tanks to be adapted.
Action to be taken:	Add transitional measures to Chapter 1.6.
Related document:	TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/80-OCTI/RID/GT-III/2000-A, paragraph 64.

* Circulated by the Central Office for International Carriage by Rail (OCTI) under the symbol OCTI/RID/GT-III/2003/36.

Introduction

When the Joint Meeting considered the special provisions of section 6.8.4 in March 2000, the introduction in TE1 of the new requirement concerning the pressure gauge once more brought up the problem of a transitional measure. It was announced at the time that WP.15 and the RID Committee of Experts would come back to the question at a later stage (see the report TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/80, paragraph 64).

Unfortunately, the subject was never in fact discussed at a later stage and no transitional measure was included in RID/ADR 2001.

The difficulty of implementing this new requirement arises particularly in the context of the assignment of a tank code to existing tanks.

Existing tanks fitted with safety valves preceded by a bursting disc are considered to be hermetically closed even if they are not equipped with a pressure gauge. They therefore do not comply with the new requirements of special provision TE1 (it may be noted that these requirements will appear in 6.8.2.2.10 in RID/ADR 2005, and TE1 will become reserved).

In our opinion it is necessary to provide for a deadline for the modification of this equipment up to the end of the periods scheduled for the assignment of a tank code to tanks in accordance with 1.6.3.18 and 1.6.4.12.

Proposal

Add the following text to 1.6.3 and 1.6.4 of RID/ADR:

“Tanks constructed before 1 January 2003 in accordance with the requirements applicable up to 30 June 2001, which comply with the requirements of 6.8.2.2.10 but are not equipped with a pressure gauge or another suitable indicator, shall nevertheless be considered as being hermetically closed up to 1 January 200x” (2008 for tank-containers, 2009 for tank vehicles, 2011 for tank-wagons).

Justification

Safety implications:

The requirements in force prior to 1 July 2001 have not presented any special problems. The scheduled retrofitting will have a positive effect on safety.

Feasibility:

A deadline for the adaptation of existing equipment will facilitate implementation.
