

UPDATE OF GRPE proper on behalf of NRMM WG
02 June 2005

Summary

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

The NRMM working group has made considerable progress since we were reporting to you last time in January 2005. It was emphasized by the involved legislative bodies that the development of a simple and harmonised test protocol leading indeed to a global harmonisation of the NRMM technical regulation is of very high priority to their respective organisation.

The strategy of the NRMM working group, as defined in 2003, of elaborating an extensive comparison document between different regulation and standards has been very successful. After the extensive document had been elaborated it was worked through by all the contributing experts. The effort culminated in two informal NRMM WG meetings in Ann Arbor September 2004 and San Antonio January 2005 where all items of these tables were discussed. This way differences were analyzed and compromises agreed upon. Nearly all issues are solved and they will form the building blocks for the future draft GTR. Several of the remaining open issues should be rediscussed and solved once the final CFR 1065 is released by US EPA. Few items are then left open but the discussion is continuing with important input from European and US experts (as RWTUEV and CRC E-66) and will not inhibit the progress of other parts of the work.

Given the progress made, the informal NRMM WG meeting in Ispra in April 2005 was used to initiate the discussion of the structure of the future draft GTR. A first proposal was presented leading to a constructive discussion with different opinions expressed by the experts. One concern was the deviation from the document WP.29/883 "Format of global technical regulation" which has been considered since then by deriving a proposal #2 completely in line with the guidance document.

Given the very transparent approach maintained until now and considering the important contribution by all involved experts from US, Japan and Europe it was decided to discuss the different proposals for structure in the September 2005 Ann Arbor NRMM informal WG meeting. Consequently, other written proposals are very welcome in order to present the opinions of all contributing experts at the September meeting. After a profound discussion, the NRMM WG should be able to find a valid and agreeable structure. This will allow the next step the start of the drafting of the document. Evidently, the global harmonization and its environmental benefit are the final target of our work with a structured draft GTR that can be readily accepted by all contracting parties.

Thank you

R. Hummel on behalf of the Chairman of the NRMM WG