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Item 8(d) of the provisional agenda

TYRES

Regulation No. 109
(Retreaded pneumatic tyres for commercial vehicles and their trailers)

Proposal for draft amendments to Regulation No. 109

Submitted by the expert from Netherlands ^{*/}

The text reproduced below has been prepared by the experts from the Netherlands in order to insert into the Regulation new provisions for retreaded tyres with additional sidewall protection (ASP). This document supersedes the former proposals ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRRF/2006/26 and ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRRF/2007/16 on the same subject. The modifications to the existing text of the Regulation are marked in **bold** 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

Insert a new paragraph 7.1.4.3., to read:

"7.1.4.3. For retreaded radial tyres with nominal section width exceeding 305 mm for dual mounting (twinning) and a nominal aspect ratio higher than 60, an additional sidewall protective rubber layer (ASP) may be applied to a maximum of 8 mm greater than the overall width of the same tyre size description permitted by Regulation No. 54 provided that:

- a) **This rubber layer is applied to one sidewall only;**
- b) **Both sidewalls are marked with the wording "ASP" and the protected sidewall is marked with the wording "OUTSIDE", both markings with a minimal height of 8 mm;**
- c) **The maximum allowed speed rating is index J (100 km/h)."**

Annex 5, amend to read:

"FOR THIS INFORMATION REFER TO ANNEX 5 OF ECE REGULATION NO. 54

Note that with reference to to Regulation No. 54, but by no more than 1.5 per cent.

The overall section width of a retreaded radial tyre with an ASP may in all cases be greater than that shown in the tables of Annex 5 to Regulation No. 54, but by no more than 8 mm."

B. JUSTIFICATION

When Regulation No. 109 was created, the long-time practice of applying ASP for enhancing safety and durability of tyres in urban use was not considered. Consequently, many casings would not be retreadable with ASP because of the section width tolerances for Regulation No. 109.

ASP is applied in the retread process to existing casings, in order to provide additional abrasion protection of the sidewall in aggressive urban usage. ASP is to be applied on one sidewall adding safety and value for the specific users, who are mainly city bus, waste hauling operations or other in city start and stop operations. Fitments on vehicles are depending on local conditions and described in local user recommendations. To correct this incoherence, it is proposed to amend Regulation No. 109, in order to allow the use of retreaded radial tyres with a section width greater than 305 mm, fitted with an ASP, an additional allowance of maximum 8 mm over the maximum authorized overall width for the same tyre in Regulation No. 54, and to indicate with text that this ASP is to be fitted to the outside of the wheel fitments to ensure the minimum dual spacing is not reduced.

The purpose of this proposal is to amend Regulation No. 109 to take into account this existing practice, to avoid that transport and retread industry be penalized. It should be noted that this modification will actually not change the overall width of tyres in the market, but will simply regularize a pre-existing, but unrecognized condition.
