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Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

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Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Tanks

Regulations for alterations of tanks, whose type approval has either expired or been withdrawn

Submitted by the International Union of Private Wagons (UIP)^{1, 2}

Background

1. At the forty-ninth session of the RID Committee of Experts, UIP has prepared an informal document (INF.3), pointing out possible problems with alterations of tanks, whose type approval has either expired or been withdrawn. Appropriate regulations on type approvals being now in force (see Chapter 1.6 and 6.8 of RID/ADR), time has come to find a solution for alterations of such tanks.
2. ADR being equally concerned, the RID Committee of Experts has decided to charge the Joint Meeting Working Group on Tanks with the subject. UIP has been charged with the preparation of a proposal.

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2010–2014 (ECE/TRANS/208, para.106, ECE/TRANS/2010/8, programme activity 02.7 (c)).

² Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2011/23.

Proposal

3. The beginning of 6.8.2.3.1 should read as follows (new text in italics):
"The competent authority or a body designated by that authority shall issue in respect of each new type *or each alteration of an existing type* of tank-wagon/tank-vehicle ..."
4. Add the following subparagraph at the end of 6.8.2.3.1:
"In case of alteration of an existing type, the test and inspection and the information on the certificate are limited to the altered part of the tank including the equipment. For the tank and equipment parts that are to be changed, the valid version of RID/ADR at the time of alteration shall be applied. For all unchanged tank and equipment parts the documentation of the initial type remains applicable."
5. Add the following text to 6.8.2.3.3 after the third subparagraph ("If a type approval has expired ..."):
"Alterations of existing tanks, however, remain possible, provided that the competent authority or the body designated by this authority and which has issued the type approval has given its authorisation (see 6.8.2.3.1)."
6. In case of adoption, Section 1.8.7 will have to be adapted accordingly.
7. Add the following text to 6.8.2.4.4 after "alteration":
", modifications that do not affect the type,".

Justification

8. In case of adoption of the proposed modifications, alterations of tanks would remain possible, even if the 10 years period of validity of the type approval has already expired or has been withdrawn due to modifications of RID/ADR. It would also lay out the conditions for such alterations.
 9. This constitutes, thus, no substantial modification of the procedure commonly, yet sometimes rather heterogeneously applied by the various states until 31 December 2010. This leads, though, to no safety implication.
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