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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 5(b) of the provisional agenda

Proposals for amendments to RID/ADR/ADN: new proposals

Special Provision 658

Transmitted by the Government of Switzerland^{1, 2}

Summary

Executive summary:	Special provision (SP) 658 adopted for the RID/ADR/ADN 2013 should better take into account the needs for the sector concerned. Instead of the gross mass of the package it is proposed to introduce limits of the mass of lighters/refills by vehicle.
Action to be taken:	Modify SP 658
Related documents:	Multilateral Agreement M 238, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2011/2, informal document INF.8 of the ninety-first session of WP.15, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2011/39

Introduction

1. Special provision 658 adopted in March 2011 by the Joint Meeting is particularly useful if the lighters and their refills are transported alone in packings of 10 kg. However,

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/2012/21.

the lighters are not always sent alone in packings but form part of advertising articles or of gifts and are transported together with a set of other products such as for example cigars. In this case it is current that each package contains only a few tens of lighters, that is a few hundred grams of lighters in a package which also contains other goods which are not dangerous. Under these conditions the limit of 10 kg per package and 100 kg per vehicle is quickly reached, not by the lighters themselves but because of the other goods contained in the packages and of the package itself. The companies carrying out such mixed consignments are limited in the use of the exemption because of the low number of lighters which can be packed by package and vehicle due to the limit of 100 kg gross mass.

2. As example taken from reality one can quote the following case:
 - A fibreboard package contains 50 lighters and of cigars;
 - The gross mass of the package is 2.72 kg;
 - A full lighter weights approximately 16 g and contains approximately 1.6 g of gas;
 - One can charge 90 packages on a pallet whose gross mass is approximately 244.8 (the weight of the palette of 25 kg is not included);
 - A package contains 0.8 kg of lighters for a gross mass of 2.72 kg;
 - A pallet contains 72 kg of lighters for a gross mass weight of 244.8 kg.
3. SP 658 allows 10 kg gross mass per package and 100 kg gross mass per vehicle.
4. Let us take an example in extreme cases of the masses authorized by SP 658:
 - A package of 10 kg gross mass contains 600 lighters (9.6 kg of lighters + 0.4 kg for the fibreboard);
 - Ten packages of 10 kg, that is 100 kg can be carried in a vehicle. That is to say 96 kg of lighters.
5. To reach 100 kg gross mass in case (2.), it is necessary to decrease from 90 to 36 the number of packages loaded on the vehicle.
6. In the first example (2.) one is allowed to transport 28.8 kg (36 x 0.8 kg) of lighters, in the second example (4.) he is allowed to transport 96 kg of lighters.
7. To really meet the needs of the industry without lowering the safety, SP 658 should not refer to the gross mass of the transported packages but rather to the mass of the lighters.
8. According to SP 201 of Chapter 3.3 applicable to UN 1057 gas contents of the lighters should not exceed 10 g and that of the refills 65 g. One can suppose that, contrary to the lighters whose sending with other non dangerous goods can be included/understood, the case of the refills for lighters is different. However, a limit of mass for refills of lighters identical to that applicable to the lighters does not pose a problem.
9. In order to take account of what precedes, in addition, we think we should not require the consignor to inform the carrier of the gross mass in accordance with 3.4.12 but instead require him to indicate the mass of lighters in a traceable form.

Proposal

10. SP 658 could be amended as follows (the new text appears underlined):
“**658** UN No. 1057 LIGHTERS complying with standard EN ISO 9994:2006 + A1:2008 "Lighters – Safety Specification" and UN No. 1057 LIGHTER REFILLS, may be carried subject only to the provisions of 3.4.1 (a) to (h), 3.4.2 (except for the total gross mass of

30 kg), 3.4.3 (except for the total gross mass of 20 kg), **and** 3.4.11 ~~and 3.4.12~~, provided the following conditions are met:

- (a) The total gross mass of each package is not more than 10 kg;
- (b) Not more than 100 kg ~~gross mass of lighters or lighter refills in~~ of such packages is carried in a vehicle; and
- (c) Each outer packaging is clearly and durably marked with "UN 1057 LIGHTERS" or "UN 1057 LIGHTER REFILLS", as appropriate."
- (d) **In advance of carriage, consignors of dangerous goods shall inform the carrier in a traceable form of the total mass of lighters or lighter refills to be consigned.**"

Justification

11. To tolerate 100 kg gross mass of packages or 100 kg of total mass of lighters or their refills does not change very much on the quantity of transported dangerous goods. By keeping the total gross mass by package of 10 kg, the allowed conditions in special provision 658 are preserved because the risk is distributed on a minimum number of identical packages. It is not very probable that the enterprises producing lighters make consignments in such small quantities. Those really interested by these quantities carry out the transport of lighters only ancillary to their main activity. These lighters are in general distributed among other non dangerous goods. In the worst of the cases the total quantity of lighters carried will not exceed 100 kg. The "dilution" of the dangerous goods among the remainder non dangerous products packed together represents an additional safety compared to a loading only made up of lighters/refills.