Proposal for a Supplement to the 04 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 41 (Noise emissions of motorcycles)

Submitted by the expert from the International Motorcycle Manufacturers Association (IMMA)*

The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from IMMA with the aim to minimize proliferation of approval numbers. The modifications are marked in bold for new or strikethrough for deleted characters.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2018–2019 (ECE/TRANS/274, para. 123 and ECE/TRANS/2018/21/Add.1, Cluster 3), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update UN Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.
I. Proposal

Paragraph 2., amend to read:

“2. …

2.1. “Approval of a motor cycle” means the approval of a motor cycle type with regard to noise;

2.2. “Type of motor cycle as regards its sound level and exhaust system” means motor cycles which do not differ in such essential respects as the following:

2.2.1. The type of engine (two-stroke or four-stroke, reciprocating piston engine or rotary-piston engine, number and capacity of cylinders, number and type of carburettors or injection systems, arrangement of valves, rated maximum net power and corresponding engine speed within COP tolerance). For rotary-piston engines the cubic capacity should be taken to be double of the volume of the chamber;

2.2.2. Transmission system, in particular the number and ratios of the gears.

2.2.3. Number, type, arrangement of exhaust or silencing systems.

2.3. “Exhaust or silencing system” means a complete set of components necessary to limit the noise caused by a motorcycle engine and its exhaust.

2.3.1. “Original exhaust or silencing system” means a system of a type fitted to the vehicle at the time of type approval or extension of type approval. It may also be the vehicle manufacturer’s replacement part.

2.3.2. “Non-original exhaust or silencing system” means a system of a type other than that fitted to the vehicle at the time of type approval or extension of type approval.

2.4. “Exhaust or silencing systems of differing types configurations” means systems which are fundamentally different in one of the following ways:

2.4.1. Systems comprising components bearing different factory or trademarks;

2.4.2. Systems comprising any component made of materials of different characteristics or comprising components which are of a different shape or size;

2.4.3. Systems in which the operating principles of at least one component are different;

2.4.4. Systems comprising components in different combinations.

2.5. …”

Paragraph 5., amend to read:

“5. APPROVAL

5.1. If the motorcycle type submitted for approval pursuant to this Regulation meets the requirements of paragraphs 6. and 7. below, approval of that motorcycle type shall be granted.

5.2.1. An approval number shall be assigned to each type approved. Its first two digits indicate the series of amendments incorporating the most recent major technical amendments made to the Regulation at the time of issue of the approval. The same Contracting Party may not assign the same number to the
same motorcycle type equipped with another type of exhaust or silencing system, or to another motorcycle type.

5.2.2. Multiple exhaust and/or silencing system configurations may be explicitly listed under the same Approval of a Type of motor cycle with their respective test results, or tested by worst case criteria, as established between the Type Approval Authority and the manufacturer.

5.3. Notice of approval or of refusal of approval of a motorcycle type pursuant to this Regulation shall be communicated to the Parties to the Agreement which apply this Regulation, by means of a form conforming to the model in Annex 1 to this Regulation and of drawings of the exhaust or silencing system, supplied by the applicant for approval in a format not exceeding A4 (210 × 297mm) or folded to that format and on an appropriate scale.

5.4. …"

Annex 3, paragraph 1.3.2.1, amend to read:

"1.3.2.1. General conditions
The vehicle shall be supplied as specified by the vehicle manufacturer. The vehicle(s) tested shall be representative of vehicles to be put on the market under the vehicle type to be approved and selected by the manufacturer in agreement with the Type Approval Authority, to comply with the requirements of this Regulation."

II. Justification

The intention of this proposal is to minimize proliferation of approval numbers from models with differences in vehicle exhaust and silencing systems. The current type definition language, in its strictest sense, does not allow for multiple configurations, such as different exhausts, intakes or engine displacements, to be listed on the same approval certificate. A separate approval number and document must be generated for each unique configuration. As approvals according to UN Regulation No. 41 are utilized by more and more countries around the world, the increase in approval numbers and documentation burden associated with one configuration per approval can grow to the point becoming unmanageable and burdensome for the manufacturers and Type Approval Authorities. The proposed changes clarify that multiple exhaust and intake configurations data may be listed on a single approval certificate. This change will reduce redundancy and minimize the chances for documentation errors.