

Submitted by the expert from the European Commission

Informal document GRB-72-02  
(72<sup>nd</sup> GRBP, 7-9 September 2020,  
agenda item 5 (e))

**Proposals for amendments to the Terms of Reference  
of the Informal Working Group on Wet Grip Performance  
for Tyres in a Worn State (IWG WGWT)**

The proposed amendments to Terms of Reference of the IWG WGWT, submitted by the expert from the European Commission, are marked in bold, red font with yellow background for new or strike-through, red font with yellow background for deleted characters.



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**Economic Commission for Europe****Inland Transport Committee****World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations****Working Party on Noise and Tyres****Seventy-two session**

Geneva, September 2020

Item ... of the provisional agenda

**IWG WGWT (Wet Grip Performance for Tyres in a Worn State)****UN Regulation No.117 (Approval of Tyres with regard to Rolling Sound Emissions and/or to Adhesion on Wet Surfaces and/or to Rolling Resistance)****Proposal for a Revision of the Terms of ~~of~~ the Informal Working Group on Wet Grip Performance for Tyres in a Worn State (IWG WGWT)****Submitted by the experts from the WGWT IWG\***

The text reproduced below was prepared by the experts from the WGWT IWG in order to update the Terms of the Reference of this group according to the already approved IWG WGWT proposals by the WP.29, progress work of the group and the impacts due to the Covid pandemic. It is based upon Annex IV to the Report of the Working Party on Noise on its seventieth session (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRBP/68). The modifications are marked in bold for new or strikethrough for deleted characters.

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\* 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

## A. Introduction

1. At the sixty-ninth session of GRB, it was pointed out that the wet grip performance of tyres decreases with tyre wear, so the current testing (performed on new tyres) does not represent the worst-case situation. The process of adapting the requirements on tyres should continue, in particular to ensure that tyre performance is also assessed, if relevant, at the end of a tyre's life (in worn state) and to promote the idea that tyres should meet the requirements throughout their life and not be replaced prematurely. UN Regulation No. 117 now contains detailed provisions on noise, rolling resistance and wet grip performance of tyres that can be amended to take into account some other prescriptions.
2. ~~It is proposed to create, starting in 2019,~~ An informal working group **was created in 2019** to define prescriptions for wet grip performance of tyres in worn state (IWG WGWT).
3. This proposal establishes the **updated** Terms of Reference for the IWG WGWT.
4. The aim of the group is to propose an amendment to UN Regulation No. 117 under the 1958 Agreement.

## B. Objectives

5. The scope and purpose are based on ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2019/6, and informal document GRB-69-23 submitted by France **and ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRBP/2019/68 paragraph 16 and Annex IV.**
6. The future amendment to UN Regulation No. 117 will apply to new pneumatic tyres of **classes C1, C2 and C3.**

**Justification: wet grip performance of C2 and C3 tyres in worn state is also important for vehicles safety. It is also of relevance to the Regulation (EU) 2019/2144 (General Safety Regulation), which includes in its requirements the wet grip of such tyres at worn state with reference to UNECE Regulation No 117. IWG WGWT was informed on this proposal at its 11<sup>th</sup> session of 26/5/2020.**

7. IWG WGWT shall:
  - Consider the scope and elaborate the target;
  - Evaluate the method for preparing a tyre to be tested in worn state at its type-approval;
  - Define the test conditions;
  - Describe the test methods;
  - Define the type-approval thresholds of tyre wet grip performance in worn state.
8. IWG WGWT shall work in the framework of the 1958 Agreement and shall report to GRBP.

## C. Rules of Procedure

9. IWG WGWT shall be open to all participants of GRBP.

10. IWG shall be co-chaired by France and the European Commission. ETRTO shall act as Secretary.
11. The working language will be English.
12. All documents and/or proposals must be submitted to the Secretary of IWG in a suitable electronic format at least one week before a scheduled meeting.
13. An agenda and the latest draft document will be circulated to all members of IWG in advance of all scheduled meetings.
14. All IWG documentation will be made available on the dedicated ECE website.

#### **D. Timeline**

15. ~~IWG shall aim to present a working document for adoption at seventy-third session of GRBP in January 2021. IWG shall present a progress report, including already achieved results, at the seventy-first session of GRB in January 2020 and a comprehensive proposal at the seventy-second session of GRB in September 2020~~ **IWG presented a progress report at the seventy-first session of GRBP in January 2020 and shall present a progress report at the seventy-second session of GRBP in September 2020 and a comprehensive proposal at the seventy-third session of GRBP in January 2021, all including already achieved results.**
16. ~~The first IWG meeting is planned to be held in April 2019. The exact date and location are to be determined.~~

## **II. Justification**

Due to the Covid-19 circumstances, the activities of the group and its members, especially the buffing and testing workplan, was delayed. Consequently, the testing data needed for the wet grip performance on worn tyres proposal will not be available within the initial timeline. The proposal is to have an adoption of a working document at the seventy-fourth session of GRBP in September 2021 instead of at seventy-third session of GRBP in January 2021, as originally intended.