

Proposal to Amend UN-ECE Reg. 48 (and GTR 48)
submitted by
the European Commission

Proposal

Paragraph 2.7.12., amend to read:

““Stop lamp” means a lamp used to indicate to other road users to the rear of the vehicle that that a retarding force is being applied to the vehicle.”

Paragraph 6.7.7. amend to read:

“Electrical connections

All stop lamps must light up simultaneously when either the service brake or endurance brake (e.g. retarder) is applied. They must also light up when a complete or partial braking system is applied for the purpose of generating vehicle retardation with or without a direct action of the driver [, resulting from the automatic evaluation of on-board initiated information].

The stop lamps need not function if the device which starts and/or stops the engine is in a position which makes it impossible for the engine to operate.”

Justification

The current text of Regulation 48 refers to the both the driver and the service brake, which effectively prohibits the stop lamps being activated automatically.

With the recent developments in automatic operation of complete or partial braking systems, it is important that the following driver is informed of this if it has the effect of retarding the vehicle. Therefore the stop lamps must be permitted to illuminate at times other than solely at the direct command of the driver through the application of the service braking system.

This proposal:

- maintains the basic requirement that stop lamps must activate when the service brake is applied;
- makes the operation of the stop lamps mandatory upon application of the endurance brake; and,
- mandates the operation of the stop lamp when a partial or complete braking system is applied for retardation purposes, not as the result of a direct action by the driver.

In the third point, the objective is to permit the operation of the stop lamps by ‘automatically commanded braking’. However, this term has not been used, because, the intention would be that the same text be used in both Reg. 48 and GTR 48.

Current Text in Reg. 48.02

2.7.12. "Stop lamp" means the lamp used to indicate to other road-users to the rear of the vehicle that its driver is applying the service brake.

The stop lamps may be activated by the application of a retarder or a similar device;

6.7.7. Electrical connections

Must light up when the service brake is applied. The stop lamps need not function if the device which starts and/or stops the engine is in a position which makes it impossible for the engine to operate.

The stop lamps may be activated by the application of a retarder or a similar device.

Proposed text for GTR (and Reg. 48)

2.7.12. "Stop lamp" means a lamp used to indicate to other road-users to the rear of the vehicle that the service brake is applied and/or longitudinal movement of the vehicle is intentionally retarded.

6.7.7. Electrical connections

All stop lamps must light up simultaneously when the service brake is applied. The stop lamps need not function if the device that activates the propulsion system of the vehicle is in a position, which makes it impossible for the vehicle to operate.

The stop lamps may also be activated by the application of an endurance brake (retarder) or a similar device.