

REGULATION No. 48 - ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS

INTRODUCTION AND RATIONALE

During the last GRE session (45th of October 2000, in Ottawa) under the subject "Electrical connections" was proposed to forbid the possibility of automatic operation of any lighting and light signalling devices, unless the conditions for this automatic operation be agreed and stated in the Regulation No. 48.

Discussing this item, some delegations (including the Italian one) pointed out that some technical solutions determining the automatic switching of certain functions are already used on presently produced and sold motor vehicles.

On this basis, some proposals of amendment to Regulation No. 48 to avoid any contrast between existing technical solutions (that probably will be maintained also in the future and even increased in number) and the proposed requirements (see doc. TRANS/WP29/GRE/2000/16), have been envisaged. Presently two official documents have been presented on the subject (see doc. TRANS/WP29/GRE/2001/2 from France and TRANS/WP29/GRE/2001/9 from OICA).

The OICA comments are a general approach to the problem and we think that the idea they express could be translated into a general requirement for the Regulation No. 48.

This general requirement, elaborated on the basis of the British proposal (doc. TRANS/WP29/GRE/2000/16) taking into account the OICA statement, is the subject of the Italian proposal that you will find Annexed.

We think that the most part of the automatic operations of lighting and light signalling functions are covered, from the point of view of the British concerns, by this simple requirements. Since the automatic operation of the functions involved may be excluded by the driver, all use requirements imposed by local laws can be fulfilled in the normal (manual) operational way.

Only particular cases, such that covered by the abovesited French proposal or automatic switching of stop lamps (that, if deactivated by the driver, will loss all advantages resulting from their automatic activation), need specific requirements for the electrical connections.

However the technical development (or the national/international legislation development) could render necessary in the future, to cover other cases of automatic operation by means of special electrical connection requirements.

PROPOSAL

In Regulation No. 48, paragraph 5.11, shall read:

"5.11. *Electrical connections*"

- Former paragraphs 5.11. and 5.12., shall be renumbered respectively as 5.11.1. and 5.11.2..
- After paragraph 5.11.2. (new numbering) add the following new paragraph:

"5.11.3. *No light or light signalling function is allowed to be automatically operated unless either: the automatic operation can be manually activated/disactivated; or specific requirements on automatic operation are provided for under item "Electrical connections" in paragraphs from 6.1 to 6.13, 6.18 and 6.19"*
