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Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling (GRE)
(Fifty-third session, 4-8 October 2004,
agenda item 2.16.)

PROPOSAL FOR DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO REGULATION No. 48

(Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices)

Transmitted by the experts from Germany

Note: The text reproduced below was prepared by the experts from Germany in order to improve the road safety at slow moving manoeuvres of all vehicles with a length exceeding 6,000 mm, except vehicles of category M1, by the use of the two optional reversing lamps mounted on the side of the vehicle. The modification to the existing text of the Regulation is marked in **bold** characters.

Note: This document is distributed to the Experts on Lighting and Light-Signalling only.

A. PROPOSAL

Paragraph 6.4.6., amend to read:

"6.4.6. Orientation

Rearwards.

In the case of the two optional devices mentioned in paragraph 6.4.2.2., if fitted on the side of the vehicle, the above mentioned requirements of paragraph 6.4.5.2. shall not be applied. However, the reference axis of these devices shall be orientated outwards not more than 15° horizontally towards the rear in relation to the median longitudinal plane of the vehicle."

Paragraph 6.4.7.2., amend to read:

"6.4.7.2. Moreover, the electrical connections of the two optional devices mentioned in paragraph 6.4.2.2. shall be such that these devices cannot illuminate unless the lamps referred to in paragraph 5.11. are switched on.

It is allowed to switch on the devices fitted on the side of the vehicle, for slow manoeuvres in forward motion. For such purposes, the devices shall be activated and deactivated manually by a separate switch and may remain illuminated even when reverse gear is disengaged. However, if the forward speed of the vehicle exceeds 10 km/h the devices shall be switched off automatically and shall remain switched off until deliberately switched on again."

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B. JUSTIFICATION

This proposal based on an accepted text at the last informal meeting in Ottawa to the equivalent paragraphs in the draft global technical regulation (gtr) for installation of lighting and light-signalling devices.

The possibility to allow the use of the additional reversing lamps mounted on the side of the vehicle is a safety improvement, which helps the drivers, especially non professionals driving small trucks, to avoid e.g. accidents or damaging of tyres etc. at slow moving manoeuvres in forward as well in reverse motion. The automatic deactivation at a speed limit of 10 km/h should avoid the misuse of such devices.
