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Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Geneva, 11-21 September 2007
Agenda item 6

PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO RID/ADR/ADN*

Orange-coloured plate marking - paragraph 5.3.2.1.2 (RID)/5.3.2.1.6 (ADR)

Transmitted by the Government of Belgium

Introduction

1. It has recently come to light that paragraphs 5.3.2.1.2 of RID and 5.3.2.1.6 of ADR lend themselves to confusion:

“5.3.2.1.6 For transport units carrying only one substance, the orange-coloured plates prescribed in 5.3.2.1.2, 5.3.2.1.4 and 5.3.2.1.5 shall not be necessary provided that those displayed at the front and rear in accordance with 5.3.2.1.1 bear the hazard identification number and the UN number prescribed respectively in Columns (20) and (1) of Table A of Chapter 3.2.”;

* Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2007/27.

“5.3.2.1.2 These orange-coloured plates shall bear the hazard identification number and the UN number, in accordance with 5.3.2.2.2, prescribed respectively in columns (20) and (1) of Table A of Chapter 3.2 for the substance carried.

When a number of different substances are carried in a tank-wagon, battery-wagon, wagon with demountable tank, tank-container, MEGC or portable tank in separate tanks or separate compartments of the same tank, the consignor shall affix the orange-coloured marking as required in 5.3.2.1.1, bearing the appropriate numbers, on each side of the tanks or tank compartments, parallel to the longitudinal axis of the wagon, tank-container or portable tank and so as to be clearly visible.”.

2. It is not clear whether the “substances” covered by these texts also include non-dangerous substances that may be carried (and consequently whether the orange-coloured plates on the sides of the tank or compartment remain mandatory when, in addition to one dangerous substance, there are also one or more non-dangerous substances present).
3. The following proposals are aimed at preventing any divergence of interpretation on this point.

Proposals

4. Amend the current text of 5.3.2.1.6 of ADR as follows (amendments are underlined and in bold):

“5.3.2.1.6 For transport units carrying only one **dangerous** substance, the orange-coloured plates prescribed in 5.3.2.1.2, 5.3.2.1.4 and 5.3.2.1.5 shall not be necessary provided that those displayed at the front and rear in accordance with 5.3.2.1.1 bear the hazard identification number and the UN number **for that substance** prescribed respectively in Columns (20) and (1) of Table A of Chapter 3.2.”;

- and amend the current text of 5.3.2.1.2 of RID as follows (amendments are underlined and in bold):

“5.3.2.1.2 These orange-coloured plates shall bear the hazard identification number and the UN number, in accordance with 5.3.2.2.2, prescribed respectively in columns (20) and (1) of Table A of Chapter 3.2 for the substance carried.

When a number of different **dangerous** substances are carried in a tank-wagon, battery-wagon, wagon with demountable tank, tank-container, MEGC or portable tank in separate tanks or separate compartments of the same tank, the consignor shall affix the orange-coloured marking as required in 5.3.2.1.1, bearing the appropriate numbers, on each side of the tanks or tank compartments **in question**, parallel to the longitudinal axis of the wagon, tank-container or portable tank and so as to be clearly visible.”.
