

Transmitted by the expert from the Netherlands

PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENTS TO REGULATION No.17

Note: The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from the Netherlands in order to provide an improved explanation of the requirement of paragraph 5.5.1., concerning not exhibiting any dangerous roughness or sharp edge.

A. PROPOSAL

5.5. Special requirements for seats fitted or capable of being fitted with head restraints

5.5.1. The presence of the head restraint must not be an additional cause of danger to occupants of the vehicle. In particular, it shall not in any position of use exhibit any dangerous roughness or sharp edge liable to increase the risk or seriousness of injury to the occupants.

Insert a new paragraph 5.5.1.1., to read:

"5.5.1.1. Parts of the front and rear faces of head restraints situated in area 1 as defined in paragraph 6.8.1.1.3. below, shall be so padded as to prevent any direct contact of the head with the components of the structure and shall meet the requirements of paragraph 5.2.4. above applicable to the rear parts of seats situated in area 2."

Paragraph 5.5.3. (former), renumber as 5.5.1.2.

"5.5.1.2. Parts of the front and rear faces of head restraints situated in area 2, as defined in paragraph 6.8.1.2.2. below, shall be so padded as to prevent any direct contact of the head with the components of the structure and shall meet the requirements of paragraph 5.1.4. above applicable to the rear parts of seats situated in area 2.

5.5.2. Parts of the front and rear faces of the head restraints situated in area 1, as defined in paragraph 6.8.1.1.3. below shall pass the energy absorption test.

5.5.2.1. This requirement is deemed to be met if in the tests carried out by the procedure specified in annex 6 the deceleration of the headform does not exceed 80 g continuously for more than 3 ms. Moreover, no dangerous edge shall occur during or remain after the test."

Paragraph 5.5.4. (former) renumber as 5.5.3. and to read as follows::

"5.5.3. The requirements of paragraphs **5.5.1. and 5.5.2** above, shall not apply to parts of rear faces of head restraints designed to be fitted to seats behind which no seat is provided."

Paragraph 5.5.5. (former), renumber as 5.5.4.

Paragraph 5.5.6. (former), renumber as 5.5.5.

"5.5.5. In the case of a seat fitted with a head restraint, the provisions of paragraph **5.2.3.** may, after agreement of the technical service, be considered to be met if the seat fitted with its head restraint complies with the provisions of paragraph **5.5.2.** above."

B. JUSTIFICATION

To facilitate a better understanding the complete paragraph 5.5 is hereby reproduced.

The requirement of paragraph 5.5.1. concerning dangerous roughness or sharp edge has to be checked (measuring radii !) before any dynamic testing and is stated in general, so no distinction between area 1 or area2.

It is thought to be confusing, that the particular requirements having to do with measuring radii is placed in paragraph 5.5.3., so after the energy absorption test of par.5.5.2 !. Furthermore the measuring of radii is only specified for area 2.

Therefore it is proposed to cluster in paragraph 5.5.1. the requirements that have to be checked before any dynamic testing, and mention area 2 as well as area 1. For this set up is made use of the known requirements for measuring radii of paragraph 5.2.4.

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