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Item 4.2.6 of the provisional agenda

1958 Agreement - Consideration of draft amendments to existing Regulations

Proposal for Supplement 2 to the 01 series of amendments of Regulation No. 55 (Mechanical coupling)

Submitted by the Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear*

The text reproduced below was adopted by the Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear (GRRF) at its sixty-seventh session in order to insert into Regulation No. 55 a provision to attach a secondary coupling device to an unbraked O₁ trailer. It is based on ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRRF/2009/32 as amended by the report (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRRF/67, para. 21). It is submitted to the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) and to the Administrative Committee (AC.1) for consideration.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2006–2010 (ECE/TRANS/166/Add.1, programme activity 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.

Insert a new paragraph 2.16., to read:

“2.16. “*Secondary coupling device*” means a chain, wire rope, etc., fitted to a Class B coupling head as defined in paragraph 2.6.2., capable in the event of separation of the main coupling, of preventing the trailer drawbar from touching the ground and providing some residual steering action on the trailer.”

Annex 1, insert a new paragraph 9.4., to read:

“9.4. For class B coupling heads, is the coupling head intended to be fitted to an unbraked O₁ trailer:.....Yes/No 2”

Annex 5, paragraph 1.5., amend to read:

“1.5. Manufacturers of towing brackets shall incorporate attachment points to which either secondary couplings or devices necessary to enable the trailer to be stopped automatically in the event of separation of the main coupling, may be attached.”

Paragraph 2.1., amend to read:

“2.1. Coupling heads of Class B50retain the prescribed characteristics.
Coupling heads, for a tractive force up to 800 kg and intended to be fitted to unbraked O₁ trailers, shall be fitted with a secondary coupling device or at least attachment point(s) to permit the connection of a secondary coupling device(s). The attachment point(s) shall be positioned such that when in use, the secondary coupling device(s) does not restrict the normal articulation of the coupling.
Coupling heads shall be designed the wear of the coupling devices.”

Annex 6, insert a new paragraph 3.2.4., to read:

“3.2.4. The secondary coupling device(s) attachment point(s) referred to in Annex 5, paragraph 2.1. shall withstand a static force equivalent to 2D with a maximum of 15 kN.”
