

Proposal for amendments to Regulation No. 55 (Mechanical couplings)

A. PROPOSAL

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."

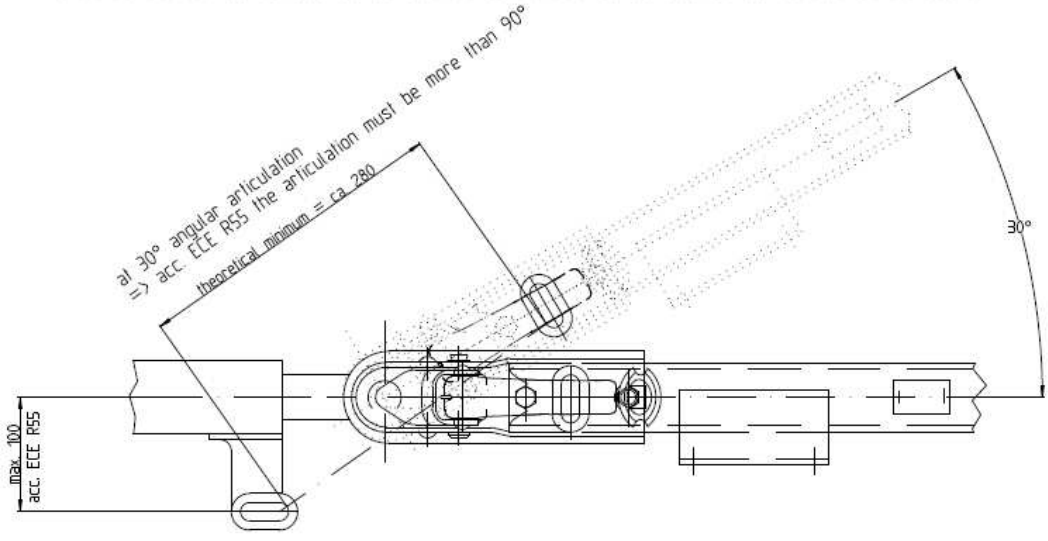
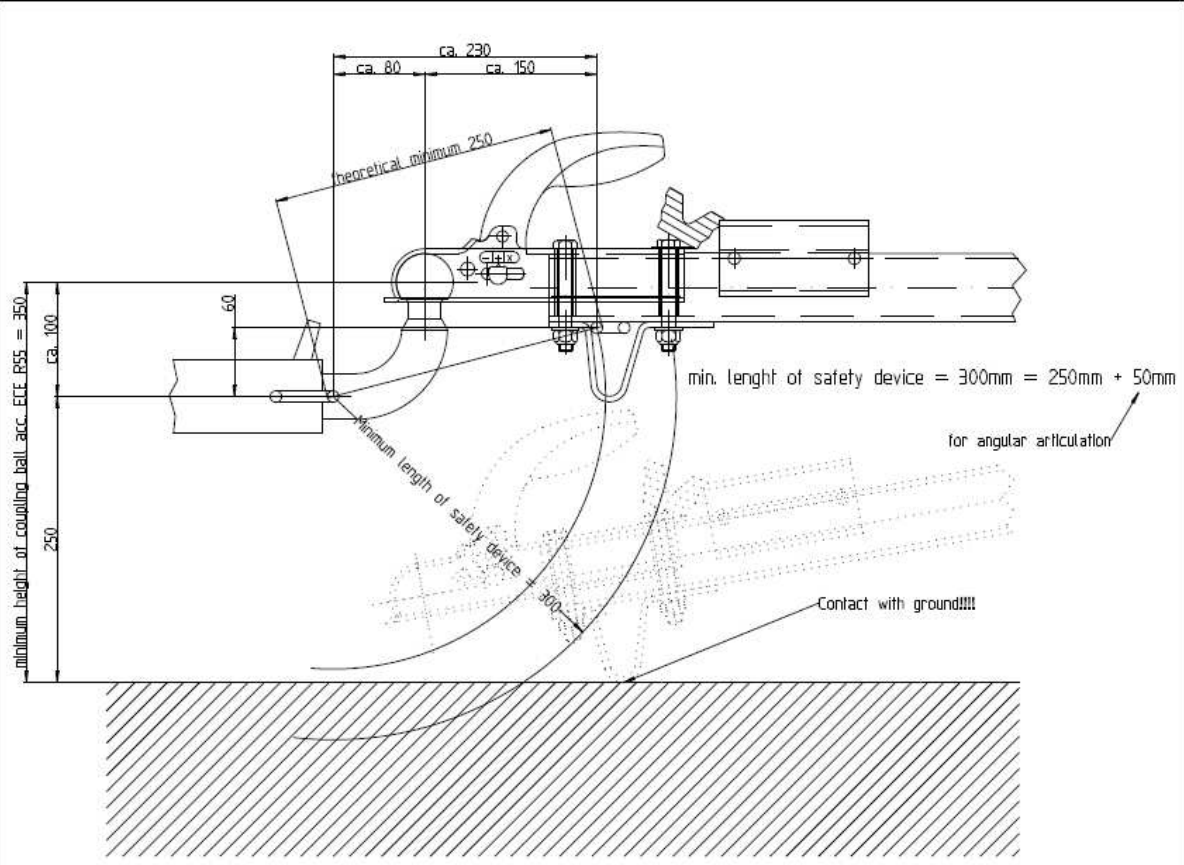
B. JUSTIFICATION

At its 67th session, GRRF adopted ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRRF/2009/23, slightly amended, to insert into Regulation No. 55 a provision to attach a secondary coupling device to an unbraked O₁ trailer. During the discussion on this amendment, OICA presented informal document GRRF-67-27, which demonstrates that the requirement "preventing the trailer drawbar from touching the ground", introduced in the definition of "secondary coupling", is contradictory to the state of the art.

Such requirement is indeed technically very restrictive as it would prevent the combination to undertake steering action below a certain radius.

CLEPA and OICA are keen to take the opportunity provided by GRRF per its agenda (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRRF/2010/18) for the 68th session to correct the error inserted with the adoption of document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRRF/2009/23.

The drawings of document GRRF-67-27 are reproduced below for the best convenience of the experts.

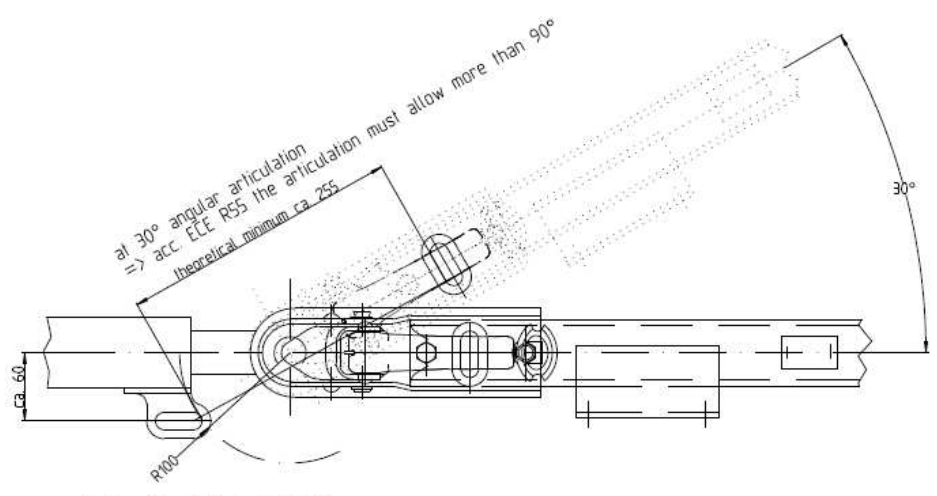
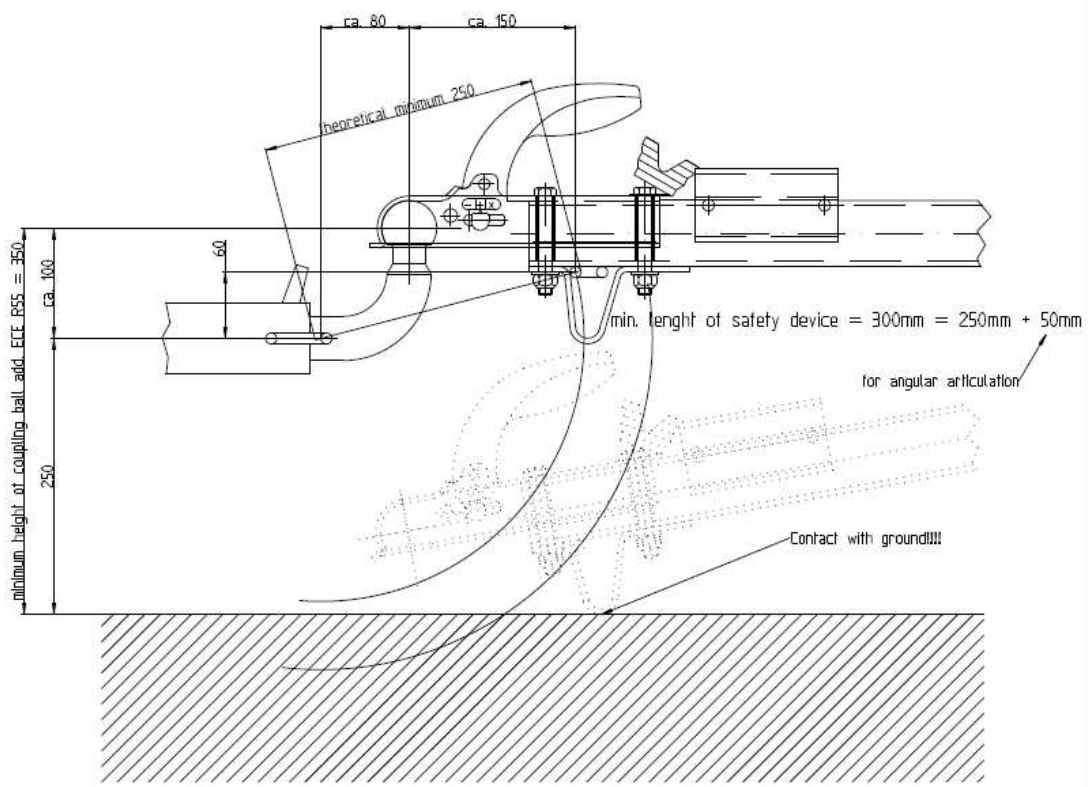


Plus extra 60mm for difference in height (siehe view above)
=> resulting minimum length of safety device = 300mm

Sketch to determine the minimum length of
the "Secondary coupling device" add. ECE R55

15/strasser
30.09.2009

SK201341



fixing point within a radi R100
acc. figure B.2 of ISO/CD 12385

Plus extra 60mm for difference in height (siehe view above)
=> resulting minimum length of safety device = 300mm

Sketch to determine the minimum length of the "Secondary coupling device" add. ISO/CD 12385

L. Strecker
30.09.2009

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