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Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

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Geneva, 15–25 September 2015

Item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda

Proposals for amendments to RID/ADR/ADN new proposals

Competent authority in accordance with special provision 376

Transmitted by the Government of Germany^{1, 2}

Summary

Executive summary:	Clarification of the competency for the specification of conditions of carriage for damaged lithium batteries.
Action to be taken:	Amendment to SP 376.
Related documents:	Non.

Introduction

1. Within the framework of the harmonisation with the 18th revised edition of the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations, the new provisions on the carriage of damaged lithium batteries were also

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2014–2015 (ECE/TRANS/240, para. 100, ECE/TRANS/2014/23, cluster 9, para.9.2).

² Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2015/28.

incorporated, and, as a consequential amendment, the previous special provision 661 was deleted.

2. In accordance with special provision 376, damaged lithium batteries liable to dangerously react under normal conditions of carriage must not be carried except under conditions specified by the competent authority. In special provision 661, it was specified that the "competent authority of any RID Contracting State/Contracting Party to ADR" was the competent authority in these cases.

3. Germany believes that, with regard to the damaged lithium batteries for which special conditions of carriage need to be specified also in the future, no amendment concerning the specified competent authority was intended. It should be possible also under RID/ADR 2015 that in the case of cross-border carriage operations a single authority lays down the required specifications for the entire transport route.

Proposal

4. It is therefore proposed to amend the last sentence of special provision 376 as follows:

"Cells and batteries liable to rapidly disassemble, dangerously react, produce a flame or a dangerous evolution of heat or a dangerous emission of toxic, corrosive or flammable gases or vapours under normal conditions of carriage shall not be carried except under conditions specified by the competent authority of an RID Contracting State/a Contracting Party to ADR; said competent authority may also recognize an approval issued by the competent authority of a country which is no RID Contracting State/Contracting Party to ADR, provided this approval was issued in accordance with the procedures applicable under RID or ADR."
