



Informal document N°13
(51st GRRF, 4-8 February 2002
agenda item 5)

**PROPOSAL FOR AN AMENDMENT TO PARAGRAPH 5.1.1
(PERIODICAL INSPECTION) OF DOCUMENT
TRANS/WP29/GRRF/2002/5**

(ECE R79 REVISION)

A Proposal

Paragraph 5.5.1., amend to read:

“5.5.1 The steering equipment shall be so designed that its function can, without disassembly, be checked with commonly used measuring instruments, methods or test devices.”

B Justification

Paragraph 5.5.1. should be simplified to make the objective clearer, and the current wording of the R79 revision, based on the braking Regulation test, is not entirely appropriate for the following reasons:

1. Steering components, unlike brake linings are not designed to have deliberately wearing parts so that any wear which takes place is slow and minimal.
2. The proposal was capable of being interpreted as referring to all the individual components but diagnosis of the source of a faulty or worn steering system is not the target of periodic technical inspection.
3. The manufacturer's aim is to build steering equipment which is able to achieve long life by minimising wear, corrosion and ageing. Making this equipment open and exposed may facilitate inspection but in fact removes the protection against wear, corrosion and ageing. Manufacturers cannot offer inspection ease at the cost of reliability.
4. Possible future electronic steering systems will have specialised actuators which include integrated microelectronics. These must be sealed inside environmental housings to prevent the ingress of moisture and dirt which would destroy their operation. These would therefore be impossible to inspect.