

2006-05-30

Minutes of the NRMM WG Meeting
held in Ispra, at DG-JRC, European Commission,
on 26th – 27th April 2006

The chairman of the NRMM working group, Giovanni De Santi, welcomed the participants (list of participants, enclosure 1).

The chairman emphasized the progress made during 2005/2006, highlighting also the success of the Ann Arbor meeting in September 2005, where the discussion on the structure for the future GTR on NRMM was completed and the structure was decided jointly. He expressed his expectation that during this meeting considerable progress would be made in the drafting and that the editorial committee would be formed. The target of this meeting would be to set up a modus operandi allowing a quick completion of the drafting, whilst maintaining the high consensus and quality level achieved by the group at each step until today.

The minutes of the previous meeting and the draft agenda (enclosure 2) were reviewed. No remarks were noted, so both documents are approved.

Update on NRMM legislation

The Japanese expert Kensuke Mizuhara from the Ministry of the Environment of Japan explained the background of the Japanese Non-road Special Motor Vehicles Exhausts Regulation Act, including its framework and schedule of implementation (enclosure 3).

Answering clarification questions Kensuke Mizuhara clarified that

- the new legislation will accept the ISO family concept,
- the engines, not the vehicle, would be subject to type approval,
- the approval authority is not yet defined, but it is foreseen that it will be possible to type test engines outside of Japan.

The US EPA expert Cleophas Jackson presented the highway and nonroad diesel programs in the United States and their planned implementation. He presented the anticipated proposal for the new control program for locomotive and marine diesel propulsion engines over the next year. He emphasized EPA's outreach to the partners and stakeholders in industry and the environmental community both domestically and internationally on these regulatory efforts (enclosure 4). Cleophas Jackson also stated that considerable progress had been made in the assessment of partial flow dilution systems for PM measurement and that Shirish Shimpi was prepared to give a presentation on the developments if time permitted.

Title and Scope of the NRMM GTR

Giorgio Billi presented a draft proposal for the Title and Scope of the NRMM GTR derived from ECE R 120 allowing a good margin of flexibility (enclosure 5). The experts considered this proposal to be the right way forward. Following an exchange of views, it is verified that spark ignited engines are not explicitly excluded from the original mandate of the NRMM WG. Jürgen Stein expressed his doubts about this approach, while US EPA and the EU Commission confirmed the interest to have the broadest possible scope of the GTR.

Presentation of symbols

As decided in the January 2005 San Antonio meeting ISO symbols will be used for the GTR on NRMM. Giorgio Cornetti presented a document specifying the symbols (enclosure 6). This document was generated and reviewed by several members of the editorial committee. Apart from an issue on the subscripts, the experts welcomed the suggested approach¹.

Progress in drafting the NRMM GTR (legal text and guidelines): Section Review

The first draft sections were developed based on the agreed structure for the GTR (Sep 2005 Ann Arbor meeting). Draft documents (Chapter 7.0, 7.2, 7.3 plus initial guidelines) were sent to the experts before the meeting. Giorgio Cornetti informed the group on the approach taken for the drafting (enclosure 7). He emphasized that a consistent lay-out has been chosen and that evidently input is needed from the contributing experts to finalise the draft.

Giorgio Cornetti presented the draft documents. The following discussion showed good approval and support of the approach taken. Cleophas Jackson stated that EPA will continue to work with the NRMM WG to facilitate development of the global technical regulation to make progress allowing for a harmonized approach to global emissions regulations. Jürgen Stein pointed out that too many recommendations were still contained in the draft text, which in his opinion should be limited to the legally binding text and thus contain very few recommendations.

After a longer discussion the group agreed on the proposal by Arthur Stark and Shirish Shimpi to elaborate one section (chosen section 7.2 'measurement instruments') step by step applying a colour scheme suggested by the WG's secretary². The group thanks Shirish Shimpi for his leadership in offering alternatives to keep the development process moving forward. The colours indicate text to be deleted, or text foreseen for the guidelines, or text to be added, or text left for further consideration/comment and content identified as open issue. Half a day of very productive work resulted in an agreed version for section 7.2. (enclosure 8).

The experts agreed that this is the way forward to derive the GTR from the segments circulated by DG-JRC. As sections will be elaborated by DG-JRC, they will be circulated to the experts. They will evaluate the document applying the same colour scheme. Thus the group will arrive, in reasonable time, at an accepted draft text.

Formation of Editorial Committee

In order to streamline and accelerate the work the experts decided to set-up an editorial committee. A limited number of contributing experts from different organisations declared their availability and commitment to participate in the editorial committee in order to swiftly achieve an agreed draft GTR.

The editorial committee discussed during the NRMM meeting in Geneva (January 2006) has been set up and it will include:

G. De Santi EC, Chairman WG NRMM
M. Shikata, Lema Japan
C. Jackson, US EPA
S. Shimpi, Cummins, EMA
J. Stein DC, ISO
H.-W. Knuth, Deutz, EUROMOT
A. Stark IVECO, EUROMOT
G. Cornetti, EC
R. Hummel, EC
G. Billi, Secretary NRMM WG

¹ The presented document was send out to the experts on the 28th of April 2006, asking for comments within 14/5/2006.

² A short description of the colour coding will be circulated in the next weeks

These experts will receive the draft sections for elaboration:

- using the defined colour scheme
- any modification to the text should explicitly result in a word by word evolution of the text (no generic comments can be taken into account) marked by the initials of the proposing expert
- for any deletion or addition of text a rationale will be indicated as a footnote

This procedure will allow an easy final elaboration of the text and a comparison of each contribution paragraph by paragraph.

As a general timeframe of work for each section it can be considered:

- 4 weeks from circulation by DG-JRC for the experts to send all comments to Rudolf Hummel
- 2 weeks for further elaboration by DG JRC and further circulation to the members
- A possible conference call at the end of these operations to find a synthesis among the suggestions

This procedure is repeated section by section. The final objective will be to have prepared a good number of sections for the September 2006 Ottawa meeting.

Discussion of open technical issues

Cleophas Jackson made a presentation on the US EPA position on a number of open technical issues with some elaboration by Shirish Shimpi (enclosure 9).

As a consequence some items were updated in the table summing up the open issues (enclosure 10)

Next meetings

- Geneva NRMM half day meeting during 52nd GRPE, 6th of June 2006, 9:30 – 12:30

(GRPE agenda at

<http://www.unece.org/trans/doc/2006/wp29grpe/ECE-TRANS-WP29-GRPE-2006-10e.doc>).

- NRMM meeting 27th -29th September, 2006, in Ottawa, Canada (place to be confirmed)

Having completed the agenda, the chairman thanked all the WG members for their participation and closed the meeting.

Enclosures

1. List of Participants
2. Agenda
3. Japanese Non-road Special Motor Vehicles Exhausts Regulation Act
4. Highway and nonroad diesel programs in the United States
5. Title and Scope of the NRMM GTR
6. Symbols
7. Draft sections
8. Elaborated section 7.2
9. US EPA position on open technical issues
10. Updated table of open issues