

26 May 2008

Status of NRMM gtr work

The editorial committee had agreed in late 2007 to present a complete gtr draft as informal document to GRPE by January 2009 and this target has been confirmed by all involved Experts in the April 2008 meeting to the point of defining the steps to be taken during 2008 in particular during the September and November 2008 meetings.

The NRMM WG started the work in 2003 using the European Directive 97/68/EC and its amendments, the ISO standards 8178 and the (at that time) developing WHDC and US rule CFR40 part 1065 as reference documents. Experts from Japan, Europe, the USA, Canada and other countries contributed actively to the WG and kept at the same time all experts informed about the evolving national regulations. Many Experts expected that the gtr development process considered the legal developments in the respective countries and thus mirrored the technical progress. The final gtr was to reflect the national regulations in the harmonised procedure but not form an additional new regulation. Thus the technical elements and requirements shall remain similar to the original ones.

During the NRMM years the working group has first elaborated the differences between the regulations, then worked to bridge these differences and finally drafted and redrafted parts of the gtr text. A lot of the discussions are hinged around fundamental differences in the approach, as for example the implications by the systems of type approval in Europe and self certification in USA. In January 2008 the chairman of the NRMM WG presented the draft text of the chapters 7 – 9 as an informal document to GRPE. In the first part of 2008 the editorial committee has prepared and discussed chapters 1 – 6.

In the mean time, the adoption of the WHDC as gtr has given a good guideline for the lay-out of the NRMM gtr. The US part 1065 has also gradually evolved during the last years. The latest revision of Part 1065 has been published in the Federal Register in May 2008. This has led to new input from US-EPA for updating the NRMM gtr draft text and requires more discussion in 2008. The consolidation of the gtr text has to follow the legislative developments with a certain delay.

The commitment to completing the work in 2008 consequently has led to a very work intense schedule for summer and autumn of 2008. The editorial committee will work to deliver the document in January 2009.

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