

55th GRPE: Report from OCE Informal Working Group Chair to the 55th Session of GRPE

17 January 2008

This progress report provides a brief overview of the work performed and the following meetings held by the Off-cycle Emissions informal working group during the last 6 months:

- 1) The WP.29/AC.3 meeting of June 2007;
- 2) The 18th OCE meeting held in October 2007 in San Francisco;
- 3) The phone conference held on 7 December 2007; and,
- 4) The 19th OCE meeting held this week on Wednesday morning.

This report also presents the working group's time line and schedule for the next 12 months

Item (1): 20th AC.3 Meeting, June 2007, Geneva

In June 2007, GRPE agreed to consider two options for how to proceed on developing the OCE gtr. Those two options were consider by AC.3 at its 20th meeting. AC.3 agreed on option 1, that option being to finish the OCE gtr within the existing framework, and to include in the gtr greater clarity regarding the application of the NTE for laboratory testing.

Item (2): 18th OCE Meeting, October 2007, in San Francisco

In San Francisco, the working group first welcomed its new secretary, Kevin Kokrda, of the Engine Manufacturers Association. Mr. Kokrda replaces Joanna Vardas.

The group then discussed primarily 5 topic areas:

- i. The WNTe zone, the definition of which OICA suggested to change. The OICA proposal would, arguably, result in a wider zone of operation within which the WNTe would apply
- ii. The WNTe emission limits. An OICA proposal would change the way that the WNTe emission limits were determined by changing the equations used to calculate the WNTe adjustment. The proposed change was meant to ensure that the WNTe limit would never be zero (as could be possible in the U.S. with its 1.5x the emission limit adjustment) and to ensure that one set of adjustment equations would be suitable to all possible emission limits around the world (i.e., very low limits in Europe, US, Japan and possibly higher limits in other countries).
- iii. The WNTe ambient and operating conditions, most notably the industry proposal to tie WNTe compliance to ambient pressure conditions rather than altitude conditions since pressure is a parameter sensed by the engine while altitude is not.
- iv. The definition of defeat strategy, to which the Commission has proposed a change.
- v. And, the laboratory based test procedure with OICA and the Commission putting forth proposals for a laboratory based test procedure. In general, the working group considered the Commission proposal to be such that a considerable effort would be required to finish the gtr if we agreed to the proposal. The Commission agreed to think further on their proposal and consider possible changes that could satisfy their needs while requiring less effort to complete. The group agreed to meet again by phone to discuss the reconsidered procedure from the Commission.

At the conclusion of the 2 days meeting, all five of these topic areas remained open for future resolution.

Item (3): 7 December 2007 phone conference

On 7 December, the group met via phone to discuss the lab based test procedure reproposal from the Commission. The reproposal put forth 3 options for the lab based test procedure.

Those options being:

- i. Random cycles across the control area
- ii. Random cycles in a grid over the control area
- iii. Revised random points procedure

During the phone conference, OICA expressed an opinion that the Commission's reproposal appeared to be a good way forward. OICA noted their intent to meet on 12 December to discuss the Commission's reproposal after which they would intend to meet with the Commission to have further discussion. The group also discussed a proposal from the Netherlands regarding the WNTe adjustment equations, meant to simplify the equations relative to those proposed by OICA in San Francisco. We also discussed the reproposed adjustment equations from OICA meant also to simplify the equations they proposed in San Francisco.

Item (4): 19th OCE Meeting, Wednesday, 16 January, in Geneva

At the OCE meeting held Wednesday morning, the Commission reported on the status of discussions with OICA regarding the 3 options for the laboratory based test procedure that were put forth in the 7 December phone conference. The Commission reported that a meeting with OICA is being arranged in the February timeframe at which point further details will be developed with respect to the lab based test procedure. The Commission reported, and OICA agreed, that it is confident that the lab based test procedure can be developed sufficiently in time for the gtr to be presented as an informal document to GRPE in June 2008.

Schedule for the next 12 months

The working group will meet next at the JASIC facilities in Tokyo, Japan, on 8 & 9 April 2008. Details will be confirmed soon by e-mail to all the members of the OCE Group.

The group intends to be in a position to present an informal version of the GTR at the 56th session of GRPE to be held in June 2008 and a formal document to GRPE for approval in January 2009.