APPLICATION OF BEST PRACTICES IN THE FIELD OF VEHICLE CONSTRUCTION

VEHICLES AND CONTAINERS WITH SLIDING SHEETS

Annie Luchie
TIR training seminar
Geneva
24th September 2007
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A STANDARD VEHICLE WITH SLIDING SHEETS AND A TIR VEHICLE WITH SLIDING SHEETS
TIR VEHICLE WITH SLIDING SHEETS
STANDARD VEHICLE WITH SLIDING SHEETS
There are fundamental technical differences between a TIR vehicle with sliding sheets and a standard vehicle with sliding sheets.
Annex 2, article 4, paragraph 1 of the TIR Convention states:

Where applicable, the provisions of Articles 1, 2 and 3 of these Regulations shall apply to vehicles with sliding sheets. In addition, these vehicles shall conform to the provisions of this Article.
The most important element of these articles is that it must be impossible to gain access to the load compartment of a sealed vehicle without leaving an obvious trace.
It is very easy to gain access to the load compartment of a standard vehicle.

It must be impossible to gain access to the load compartment of a sealed TIR vehicle.
Examples of some of the differences between a TIR vehicle with sliding sheets and a standard vehicle with sliding sheets
AT THE TOP OF THE VEHICLE
The sheet must overlap the solid parts at the top of the vehicle by at least $\frac{1}{4}$ of the actual distance between the tensioning straps.
There is a relationship between the distance between the tensioning straps and the overlap at the top.

Relationship: distance divided by 4 = minimum overlap at the top
Sheet overlap at the top of the TIR Vehicle
Sheet overlap at the top of the standard vehicle
SLIDING SHEET GUIDANCE
Top of the TIR vehicle
Top of the standard vehicle
Access to the load compartment at the top of the TIR vehicle
Access to the load compartment at the top of the standard vehicle
Top rail of vehicles with sliding sheets

STANDARD

TIR
AT THE BOTTOM OF THE VEHICLE
There are two requirements at the bottom of the vehicle:

- sheet overlap
- horizontal opening
The sheet shall overlap the solid parts at the bottom of the vehicle by at least 50 mm.
Overlap at the bottom of the vehicle

TIR

Standard
The horizontal opening between the sheet and the solid parts of the load compartment may not exceed 10 mm …
Horizontal opening between sheet and solid part at the bottom of the TIR vehicle
Horizontal opening between sheet and solid part at the bottom of the standard vehicle
THE SHEET TENSIONING DEVICE
The following is an example only, there may be other designs of devices that are also secure for TIR purposes.
Sheet tensioning device of a TIR vehicle
Sheet tensioning device of a standard vehicle
Detail of a tensioning device on a TIR vehicle
Detail of a tensioning device on a standard vehicle
A TIR vehicle with sliding sheets and a standard vehicle with sliding sheets at first glance seem the same, but inspection shows that there are important differences in their design.
The differences are vitally necessary because the load compartment on a TIR vehicle needs to be able to be secured