



*Ministero delle Infrastrutture
e dei Trasporti*

Dipartimento per i trasporti, la navigazione ed i
sistemi informativi e statistici

Direzione Generale per la Motorizzazione
Divisione 2

**To : - all ADR Contracting Parties
- UN Secretariat**

Our reference : 24303/RU dated 21/11/2017

Enclosure(s): 1

**Subject: Multilateral Agreements under section 1.5.1 of ADR –
New Multilateral Agreement M 308.**

Dear Sirs,

I have the honour to inform you that Italy initiated the new Agreement M 308.

The Italian LPG market is one of the most relevant in Europe and cylinders have historically been a mainstay of its distribution with a consistency of about 27 million cylinders owned by the companies. In this framework cylinders' design, construction, filling and periodic testing are operations for which companies and authorities involved have developed considerable historical experience, comprise a 5 year experience with the M255, which application gave a relevant response on the safety level of the LPG cylinders.

The chemical and physical characteristics of LPG are such as not to produce corrosive effects on steel sheets with which the same cylinders are constructed.

Since gases of Class 2 may have levels of corrosivity to the inner walls of the receptacles very different from each other, ADR generally prescribes, "*erga omnes*", that the containers for the transport of gases shall be subjected to an internal inspection.

On the basis of the extensive national experience, gained for decades on the external inspection and the hydraulic pressure test and on the base of a 5 years experience with the same derogation by M255, it is believed that the control of the internal state of the container provides negligible additional elements to the assessment of the state of the cylinder and would add procedural burdens.

On this basis the Italian Competent Authority proposes the attached multilateral agreement by derogation from the provisions of 6.2.3.5.1 of ADR.

Please find enclosed the signed copy of the new Multilateral Agreement.

Yours sincerely,

THE HEAD OF DIVISION 2, INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY AFFAIRS

Dr. Ing. Antonio Erario



AS/as