

**Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee
and the Working Party on the Transport of
Dangerous Goods**

(Bern, 23-27 March 2003)

**Proposal regarding the Addendum 3 to the Report of the last meeting of the Joint
Meeting
(Geneva, 9-12 September 2002)**

Transmitted by the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN)

In order to facilitate the discussions that were due to take place during the session of last September of the Joint Meeting on the subject of the referencing of Standards in RIDADR regulation, CEN had transmitted a flow-chart describing from the left to the right:

- the main steps in the CEN process to ratify (approve) EN standards,
- the main activities of the CEN consultant linked to the approval process and his activities to inform the Joint Meeting
- the suggested activities of the Joint Meeting Standards Working Group linked to the information received from CEN and the CEN consultant and linked to the information available at the National Standardisation Bodies.

The representative of CEN and the CEN consultant discussed with the representatives of the Member States and the Professional Associations the initial flow-chart which was redrafted during the session in order to be annexed to the report of the Joint Meeting. The representative of CEN drafted also during the session an explanatory text of this flow chart. This text has been implemented along with the 'Process flow-chart for the adoption of EN Standards in RID/ADR (rev3 Sep 2002).

However CEN Members have reacted on the wording of the the 2nd paragraph of step 3. The sentence 'Negative comments received within one month will block the Formal Vote process' was perceived as a possibility for a third-party to decide on its own to stop the development of a European Standard.

CEN is suggesting to replace the 2nd paragraph of step 3 by the following text:

'Comments on the standard's compliance with the RID/ADR should be sent to the CEN Consultant. Those received within one month from the date of circulation of the document shall be evaluated by the CEN Consultant.

If they are deemed valid, the launching of the CEN Formal Vote may be postponed until any problems revealed have been resolved. Comments received after one month has elapsed will not delay publication but any consequential changes in the standard will be processed by initiating a revision'.
