PROPOSAL FOR DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO REGULATION No. 58
REAR UNDERRUN PROTECTIVE DEVICES (RUPD)

A. PROPOSAL

The following changes shall be incorporated into Annex 5:

Paragraph 2.5., amend to read:

"………. shall be tested with the suspension or device in the normal running condition specified by the manufacturer."

Paragraph 3.1.2., amend to read:

"In the cases defined in paragraphs 1.1.1. and 1.1.2. of this Annex a horizontal force of 50 kN or 25 per cent of the force generated ……….."

Paragraph 3.1.3., amend to read:

"In the cases defined in paragraph 1.1.3. of this Annex a horizontal force of 50 kN or 25 per cent of the force generated ……….."

Insert new paragraphs 3.2. to 3.2.2., to read:

"3.2. For vehicles fitted with a platform lift at the rear, the fitting of the underrun device may be interrupted for the purposes of the mechanism. In this case, the following special requirements apply:

3.2.1. the lateral distance between the fitting elements of the underrun device and the elements of the platform lift, which make the interruption necessary, may amount to no more than 2.5 cm.

3.2.2. The individual elements of the underrun protection device must have an effective surface area, in each case, of at least 350 cm². If the distance of the operating mechanism for the platform lift from a longitudinal plane defining the outer edge of the wheels on the rear axle is less than 375 mm, the centre section of the underrun protection device is sufficient."

B. JUSTIFICATION

The change to paragraph 2.5. of Annex 5 is to clarify an issue of what may be specified by the manufacturer in the setting up for any testing. The changes proposed to paragraphs 3.1.2. and 3.1.3. are to update and improve the levels of safety provided by the system and to provide international harmonization in the requirements. The proposed new paragraph 3.2. is in order to allow for the increasing use of platform lifts on the rear of vehicles. The lift mechanisms for these units require that the protection systems be interrupted and the proposal would allow for the necessary consideration to be made.

- - - - -