

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods  
(Eighty- first session,  
Geneva, 25-27 October 2006)

**Manhole Covers: Transitional measures**

**Transmitted by the Government of the United Kingdom**

**Introduction**

1. At the recent Joint Meeting held in Geneva between 11-15 September 2006 both the tanks working group and the plenary meeting considered two papers presented by the United Kingdom, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2006/22, and INF20.
2. In these papers the United Kingdom noted that the September 2005 Joint Meeting adopted restrictions on standard EN 13317 which required that materials for manhole covers comply with EN 13094 and no longer permitting the clampband assembly type manhole cover. Unfortunately no transitional measures were included for existing tanks.
3. In INF 20 the United Kingdom produced 2 alternative solutions. The first dealt with the specific problems of manhole covers, the second suggested a more comprehensive approach to cover transitional measures in a general way. During the discussion in plenary the Joint Meeting favoured adopting in principle the first solution put forward by the United Kingdom, amended as suggested by the representative of the Netherlands so as to ensure it also dealt specifically with the clampband assembly. As the first solution referred specifically to EN 13317 and this standard is only referenced in ADR, the Joint Meeting consequently asked that this issue be referred to WP.15 for consideration. This modified text is reproduced below.

**Proposal**

4. Add a new transitional measure in 1.6.3 of ADR as follows: -  
  
“**1.6.3.X** Fixed tanks (tank vehicles) and demountable tanks constructed before 1 January 2007 in accordance with the requirements of 6.8.2.6 in relation to manhole cover assemblies of EN 13317 in force up to 31 December 2006 but which do not, however, conform to these requirements of 6.8.2.6 applicable from 1 January 2007 may still be used.”
5. As mentioned in INF.20 to the Joint Meeting the United Kingdom would propose the use of a multilateral agreement under 1.5.1 because it would be too late to put the new provisions in the 2007 ADR and this would cover the period up to the coming into force of the 2009 edition of ADR.