

## **Approval certificate - TIR road vehicles**

(Transmitted by the secretariat of the Working Party on Customs Affecting Transport (WP.30))

When commercial road vehicles are used for cross-border transport of goods, it is normally required that the load compartments must be suitable for Customs sealing. From a Customs perspective sealing is the easiest way to secure that all the original goods are presented at the Customs office of destination. Load compartments should be constructed in such a way that there shall be no access to the interior when secured by Customs seal and that any tampering will be clearly visible. Towards this aim, the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention), which is administered by the UNECE Transport Division, contains extensive standards on the Customs secure construction and approval procedures, Annexes 2 - 7 to the TIR Convention (<http://www.unece.org/trans/bcf/tir/tirconv/conv75.htm>).

According to national practices, a national competent body, often the national vehicle approval authority on behalf of Customs authorities, is designated to ensure the technical implementation of these construction and approval regulations. This is done through inspection and issuance of an approval certificate at the time of entering into service of the vehicle and through biannual counter visits.

Recently, a number of problems with the incorrect approval of TIR road vehicles have been brought to the attention of WP.30. These problems are often linked to a lack of technical knowledge of the competent authorities in relation to the requirements of the TIR Convention. To assist competent authorities in fulfilling their duties, a set of measures have been suggested, including the preparation of checklists, best practices, etc. as well as the organization of a seminar for approval authorities providing training on the correct approval of TIR loading units. These activities are supported by the Liaison Committee of the Body and Trailer Building Industry (CLCCR) and by the European Commission and Euro Customs.

Since the underlying problems relate to the construction of road vehicles, the WP.30 secretariat proposes to organize, in conjunction with a future WP.29 session, a special workshop for representatives of transport authorities dealing with approval of TIR vehicles. The aim of the workshop is to acquaint the representatives with the problems that have been identified and the solutions at hand. On this basis, representatives of WP.29 will be able in a position to inform their appropriate national authorities with a view to rectify the problems identified and correct any wrong procedures applied at national level.

The WP.29 representatives are kindly requested to should indicate if they are interested in participating in the above-mentioned seminar to be organized at the June 2007 session of WP.29, in the afternoon of Thursday 28 June, if a reasonable number of WP.29 representatives are interested. For this purpose, representatives are kindly requested to fill in the attached questionnaire and return it back to the WP.29 secretariat by the end of the current WP.29 session.

## QUESTIONNAIRE

The representative of \_\_\_\_\_

- Is interested
- Is not interested

in participating at the

### **Approval certificate - TIR road vehicles seminar**

To be organized by the secretariat of the Working Party on Customs Affecting Transport (WP.30) on Thursday 28 June 2007, in the afternoon session of WP.29.

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Please, return back this questionnaire to the WP.29 before the end of the current WP.29 session.