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Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

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

Geneva, 13–23 September 2011

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Tanks

Standardization work on venting systems and flame arresters/flame traps

Transmitted by the Government of France^{1, 2}

Summary

Executive summary: CEN/TC 296/WG7 wishes to know which vents/valves are considered to be venting systems and must be equipped with flame arresters/flame traps

Related documents: ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/118/Add.1 §21.

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2010–2014 (ECE/TRANS/208, para. 106, ECE/TRANS/2010/8, programme activity 02.7 (c)).

² Distributed by the Intergovernmental Organization for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) as document OTIF/RID/RC//2011/50.

Introduction

1. At the March 2010 meeting, the working group on tanks examined documents INF.26 of Sweden and INF.17 of the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and decided that standardization work to resolve the issue of appropriate and effective flame arresters/flame traps in venting systems on tanks carrying petroleum could proceed.
2. At its plenary meeting in November 2010, CEN Technical Committee 296 resolved to draft a standard setting minimum requirements for venting systems, since the notion of systems to protect against flame propagation exists in paragraph 4.3.4.1.1 of RID/ADR and provisions on flame arresters/flame traps are included in paragraph 6.8.2.2.3 of RID/ADR.

Question

3. During its work on the subject, the working group CEN/TC 296/WG7 discussed whether the standard should cover all venting systems, in other words, both pressure and vacuum breather vents (EN 14595) and vapour transfer valves (EN 13082).
 4. The working group on tanks is requested to specify which vents/valves are considered to be ventilation systems according to paragraph 6.8.2.2.6 and hence must be equipped with flame arresters/flame traps.
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