

Progress report for the tyre GTR

Summary

Developing a GTR on tyres was approved by AC3 in November 2006, and revised during 2009 to reflect major issues identified by the informal group. Since then a combination of factors has slowed progress and completion of the draft GTR has been delayed. The informal group, therefore, seeks to extend the timeline for delivering the Phase-I draft GTR by 12 months to June 2013 (from June 2012).

Consideration

Developing a GTR on tyres was approved by AC3 in November 2006 on the basis of document AC3/15. This agreement was amended during the 2009 by AC3 in recognition of the need to create a 2-phase approach due to the complexity and considerable additional workload of harmonising test requirements for 'LT' (light truck) and 'C' (Commercial) rated tyres.

The revised timescales were set at:

- Phase I - June 2012
- Phase II - end 2014

The informal group was established under GRRF and has held 15 meetings. Working drafts of the Phase-I GTR test requirements and limit values, etc along with the technical rationale are available on the UN-ECE website. In addition to developing the basic provisions as anticipated in 2006, the informal group sought to create a 'global' marking to be applied under the 1998 Agreement (i.e. similar to the E-mark under the 1958 Agreement). Progress on this issue added to the informal group's activities and was debated in AC3 during 2009/10.

New technical issues have also been introduced which the informal group has been required to consider. These include decisions on how to incorporate rolling resistance provisions, incorporating national provisions that can apply universally, and revisiting the scope and content of the separate modules agreed under the original proposal (AC3/15) to reflect better the views of the wide range of Contracting parties attending the informal group.

There are also external factors that have contributed to the delays. These include the need to co-locate informal group sessions with GRRF meetings to minimise travel and accommodation costs for delegates, and changing responsibilities of those involved.

Reflecting on the timeline, and the anticipated further work required to complete the GTR, has prompted this request to extend the timeline by 12 months (to June 2013).
