Proposal for Collective Amendments to Regulations No. 5 (Sealed beam headlamps) and Regulation No. 31 (Headlamps (halogen sealed beam (HSB))

Submitted by the expert from the International Automotive Lighting and Light Signalling Expert Group (GTB)

The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from the International Automotive Lighting and Light Signalling Expert Group (GTB) to amend the transitional provisions to cease granting new type approvals for the "Sealed Beam" headlamps and to correct the title of UN Regulation No. 31. The modifications to the existing text of the Regulation are shown in "track changes" mode.

* 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 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.
I. Proposal

A. Proposal for the 03 series of amendments to Regulation No. 5

Paragraph 15., amend to read:

"15. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

15.1. As from the date of entry into force of the 02 series of amendments to this Regulation no Contracting Party applying it shall refuse to grant approvals under this Regulation as amended by the 02 series of amendments.

15.2. As from 24 months after the date of entry into force mentioned in paragraph 16.1. above, Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall grant approvals only if the type of headlamp corresponds to the requirements of this Regulation as amended by the 02 series of amendments.

15.3. Existing approvals granted under this Regulation before the date mentioned in paragraph 16.2. above shall remain valid. However, Contracting Parties applying this Regulation may prohibit the fitting of devices which do not meet the requirements of this Regulation as amended by the 02 series of amendments:

15.3.1. On vehicles for which type approval or individual approval is granted more than 24 months after the date of entry into force mentioned in paragraph 16.1. above;

15.3.2. On vehicles first registered more than five years after the date of entry into force mentioned in paragraph 16.1. above.

15.1. As from [twelve] months after the official date of entry into force of the 03 Series of this Regulation, Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall cease to grant ECE approvals according to this Regulation.

15.2. Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall not refuse to grant extensions of approval to this and any previous series of amendments of this Regulation.

15.3. Existing approvals granted before the official date of entry into force of the 03 Series of this Regulation and all extensions of approvals, including those to a preceding series of amendments to this Regulation granted subsequently, shall remain valid indefinitely.

15.4. Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall continue to issue approvals for headlamps on the basis of this and any previous series of amendments to this Regulation, provided that the headlamps are intended as replacements for fitting to vehicles in use.

15.5. Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall continue to allow fitting of a headlamp approved to this Regulation on a vehicle or vehicle type.

15.6. Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall continue to allow fitting or use on a vehicle in use of a headlamp approved to this
Regulation as amended by any previous series of amendments, provided that the headlamp is intended for replacement."

B. Proposal for the 03 series of amendments to Regulation No. 31

The title of the Regulation, amend to read:

"UNIFORM PROVISIONS CONCERNING THE APPROVAL OF POWER-DRIVEN VEHICLE'S HALOGEN SEALED-BEAM HEADLAMPS (HSB) EMITTING AN EUROPEAN ASYMMETRICAL PASSING BEAM OR A DRIVING BEAM OR BOTH"

Paragraph 15., amend to read:

"15.1. As from the date of entry into force of the 02 series of amendments to this Regulation no Contracting Party applying it shall refuse to grant approvals under this Regulation as amended by the 02 series of amendments.

15.2. As from 24 months after the date of entry into force mentioned in paragraph 15.1. above, Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall grant approvals only if the type of HSB unit corresponds to the requirements of this Regulation as amended by the 02 series of amendments.

15.3. Existing approvals granted under this Regulation before the date mentioned in paragraph 15.2. above shall remain valid. However, Contracting Parties applying this Regulation may prohibit the fitting of HSB units which do not meet the requirements of this Regulation as amended by the 02 series of amendments:

15.3.1. on vehicles for which type approval or individual approval is granted more than 24 months after the date of entry into force mentioned in paragraph 15.1. above,

15.3.2. on vehicles first registered more than five years after the date of entry into force mentioned in paragraph 15.1. above.

15.1. As from [twelve] months after the official date of entry into force of the 03 Series of this Regulation, Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall cease to grant ECE approvals according to this Regulation.

15.2. Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall not refuse to grant extensions of approval to this and any previous series of amendments of this Regulation.

15.3. Existing approvals granted before the official date of entry into force of the 03 Series of this Regulation and all extensions of approvals, including those to a preceding series of amendments to this Regulation granted subsequently, shall remain valid indefinitely.

15.4. Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall continue to issue approvals for headlamps on the basis of this and any previous series of amendments to this Regulation, provided that the headlamps are intended as replacements for fitting to vehicles in use.
15.5. Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall continue to allow fitting of a headlamp approved to this Regulation on a vehicle or vehicle type.

15.6. Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall continue to allow fitting or use on a vehicle in use of a headlamp approved to this Regulation as amended by any previous series of amendments, provided that the headlamp is intended for replacement.”

II. Justification

1. The title of UN Regulation No. 31 was amended by a proposal from the European Commission in 2005 (TRANS/WP.29/GRE/2005/27) deleting the abbreviation (“HSB”) as well as the word "Halogen". The motivation for the deletion of the reference to "Halogen" and "HSB" is not clear but it results in the loss of the differentiation between UN Regulations Nos. 5 and 31. As the text of UN Regulation No. 31 consistently refers to "HSB" (see paras. 2.1., 2.4., 3.1.1., 4.1. etc.), and the text of UN Regulation No. 5 consistently refers to "SB", it would appear logical to revert to the original title of UN Regulation No. 31.

2. In addition to the above comments, GRE at its 68th session, basically agreed with the proposal of GTB to "freeze" the "Sealed Beam" Regulations, to prevent new type approvals being granted, as was done in the case of UN Regulations Nos. 2, 8 and 20. The GTB experts are of the opinion that regulations permitting type approval of the outdated "sealed beam headlamp" technologies are no longer appropriate.

3. It is proposed to introduce a new series of amendments for both Regulations 5 and 31 with transitional provisions that would cease to allow new type approvals to be granted. The transitional period of 12 months has been left for the decision of GRE.