UN Regulation No. 121 (Identification of controls, tell-tales and indicators)

Draft proposal for Supplement 1 to 01 Series of amendments

As indicated in document GRSG-110-04 by the secretariat, GRE adopted during its last session (5-8 April 2016), among others, amendment proposals to UN Regulations Nos. 7, 87 and 48 on tell-tales indicating a failure (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRE/2016/7, ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRE/2016/12 and ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRE/2016/17) and decided to submit them to the November 2016 session of WP.29 for consideration.

Some GRE experts pointed out that the proposed amendments might have an impact on UN Regulation No. 121 and, therefore, may also require an amendment to this UN Regulation.

Here below is a draft proposal for the modification of Table 1 in UN Regulation No. 121/01, in such a way to extend the application of the note 18 to the tell-tales of some lighting and light-signalling functions.

A. Proposal

"In Table 1, lines No. 2. and 19., add a reference to note 18, to read:

"Table 1
Symbols, their illumination and colours."
B. Justification

1. In relation to the amendments introduced in UN Regulations Nos. 7, 48 and 87 for the indication of light sources failures in the light signalling functions position lamp, stop lamps, end-outline marker lamps and DRL, it is appropriate to allow for the use of different colours of the tell tales indicating activation of the above light signalling functions in such a way to indicate their failure. This provide to the vehicles manufacturers an alternative solution to the need for add the symbol indicating failure (!) to the symbol of the failed light function.

2. Requirements on light sources failure exist already for the LED dipped beam headlamps, but the possibility to use different colour to indicate the failure is not allowed for the related tell-tale.

3. Based on the above considerations it has been judged suitable to extend the application of note 18 to Table 1, (the text of which is reproduced without any change in the proposal, for easier reference only) allowing for the use of different colour to convey different meaning or indication of a different state for the involved functions.

4. Please note that, in a near future, the requirements on light sources failures will be further extended to other light signalling functions. A further amendment will then be useful to extend once more the application of note 18 to the involved light signalling functions, once the UN Regulations for all the other light-signalling functions will be amended to introduce requirements on light sources failure indication.

5. To be noted also that the proposed amendments to UN Regulation No. 121 are in line with the concept of the use of different colours to indicate a change in the status of the involved function expressed in paragraph 5. of ISO Standard 2575.