Proposal for a Supplement to the 06 series of amendments of Regulation No. 48

Note: The modifications to the current text of the regulation are marked in bold or strikethrough characters.

I. Proposal

5.11.1.3. When light signalling system operates the rear position lamps are activated according to 6.2.7.6.2 paragraph 6.19.7.4.

6.1.7.1. Except when they are used to give intermittent luminous warnings at short intervals the main-beam headlamps may be switched ON, only when the master light switch is in headlamps OFF position or in "AUTO" (automatic) position and the conditions for automatic activation of dipped-beam exist or dipped-beam are switched OFF manually. In the latter case, consequently the main beam headlamps shall be switched off automatically when the conditions for automatic activation of dipped-beam ceased to exist.

6.2.7.5. Dipped-beam headlamps may be switched ON or OFF automatically. However, it shall be always possible to switch these dipped-beam headlamps ON and OFF manually.

6.2.7.6. If daytime running lamps are present and operate according to paragraph 6.19., either

6.2.7.5.v. The dipped-beam headlamps shall be switched ON and OFF automatically relative to the ambient light conditions (e.g. switch ON during night-time driving conditions, tunnels, etc.) according to the requirements of Annex 13.

However, it shall be always possible to switch these dipped-beam headlamps ON and then OFF manually. When the dipped-beam headlamps are manually switched OFF the automatic operation shall be reactivated at the same time.

6.2.7.6.2. Daytime running lamps operate in conjunction with the lamps listed in paragraph 5.11. where, as a minimum requirement, at least the rear position lamps shall be activated; or

6.2.7.6.3. Distinctive means are provided to inform the driver that the headlamps, position lamps and if so equipped end outline marker lamps and side marker lamps are not illuminated. Such means are:

6.2.7.6.3.1. Two distinctly different levels of instrument panel illumination intensity are provided during night and day, indicating to the driver that the dipped-beam headlamps shall be switched ON, or

6.2.7.6.3.2. Non-illuminated indicators and identification of hand controls that are required by Regulation No. 121 to be illuminated when the headlamps are activated; or

6.2.7.6.3.3. A tell-tale visual, auditory or both, shall be activated only in reduced ambient lighting conditions as defined in Annex 13 to inform the driver that the dipped-beam headlamps should be switched ON. Once the tell-tale is activated, it shall only be extinguished when the dipped beam headlamps have been switched on or the device which starts and/or stops the engine (propulsion system) is set in a position which makes it impossible for the engine (propulsion system) to operate.

6.2.7.7. Without prejudice to In addition to the factors prescribed in paragraph 6.2.7.5.v., the dipped-beam headlamps may switch ON and OFF automatically relative to other factors such as time or ambient conditions (e.g. time of the day, vehicle location, rain, fog, etc.).

6.9.8. Tell-tale

Circuit-closed tell-tale mandatory. This tell-tale shall be non-flashing and shall not be required if the instrument panel lighting can only be turned on simultaneously with the front position lamps.

This requirement does not apply when light signalling system operates according to paragraph 6.2.7.6.2.

6.10.8. Tell-tale

Circuit-closed tell-tale mandatory. It shall be combined with that of the front position lamps.
This requirement does not apply when light signalling system operates according to paragraph 6.2.7.6.2.

6.19. Day-time running lamp (Regulation No. 87)  

The Contracting Parties not applying Regulation No. 87 may prohibit the presence of DRL (as specified in paragraph 5.22) on the basis of national regulations.

6.19.7.4. The rear position lamps or all the lamps referred to in paragraph 5.11. may be switched ON when the daytime running lamps are switched ON, except if daytime running lamps are operating according to paragraph 6.2.7.6.2., where at least the rear position lamps shall be activated.

II. Justification

Purpose of UNECE Regulation 48, series of amendments 05 and 06, is to enhance the safety vehicle transportation by providing automatic lamps control in relation to the ambient light.

To avoid misuse of the daytime running lamps (DRL), automatic switching between DRL and dipped-beam headlamps should be the only way of switching. However possibility of manual switching for specific cases is still necessary.

Based on transitional provisions for series 05 of amendments, there are no other possibilities than automatic switching after 30.7.2016 (for new type of categories M1 and N1 vehicles) and after 30.1.2018 (for new type of other categories vehicles).

However in the transitional provisions for series 06 of amendments, the same transitional period is not indicated, probably for an editorial issue. As a consequence, the application of alternative solutions to the automatic switching, as per paragraphs 6.2.7.6.2 and 6.2.7.6.3., is maintained indefinitely.

This proposed supplement is necessary for correction of this mistake in series of amendments 06.

Based on the opinions expressed during 74th GRE session, the better and simpler solution to correct the above indicated mistake is to delete the alternative solutions to the automatic switching from the 06 series of amendments.

This is the solution we have adopted in the present proposal, by means of:
- deletion of paragraphs 6.2.7.6.2 and 6.2.7.6.3;
- merging and rewording of paragraphs 6.2.7.5 and 6.2.7.6;
- consequent editorial adjustment in paragraph 5.11.1.3. and 6.19.7.4. to maintain acceptable the rear position lamps switching possibility allowed by the present text;
- small editorial changes to better clarify that an automatic switching based on different factors in respect to those prescribed in paragraph 6.2.7.5. (new numbering) are allowed only as supplemental condition;
- other editorial changes and renumbering for text and numbering coherence.

We like to stress the need to consider this proposal as a supplement to 06 series of amendment without any transitional provisions since, despite the appearance, the requirements of UNECE Regulation 48 on automatic switching between DRL and headlamps are in line with the intention of the GRE as clearly expressed in the series 05 of amendments.