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Economic Commission for Europe**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, 17–27 September 2019

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Tanks**Tanks: Clarification of protection required for the fittings
and accessories mounted on the upper part of Vacuum-
Operated Waste Tanks**

Transmitted by the Government of the United Kingdom*, **

Summary

- Executive summary:** This proposal follows on from discussions in the Working Group on Tanks at the March and September 2018, and March 2019 sessions of the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting regarding overturn protection that may be required for fittings and accessories mounted on the upper part of Vacuum-Operated Waste Tanks. At the March 2019 session it was agreed that the relevant text within ADR should be amended and the United Kingdom was invited to submit a revised proposal taking into account the discussions.
- Action to be taken:** Proposal to amend subsection 6.10.3.1 to make it clear that the requirements of subsection 6.8.2.1.28 apply to certain items of equipment that may be mounted in the so called ‘protected area’ at the top of the tank. A new transitional measure in subsection 1.6.3.35.
- Related documents:** ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2019/17 and INF 39 (paragraphs 13 to 16) of the March 2019 session, INF.17 and INF.30 (paragraphs 22 – 25) of the September 2018 session, and INF.47 (paragraph 42) of the March 2018 session.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2018-2019, (ECE/TRANS/2018/21/Add.1, Cluster 9, (9.2)).

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Introduction

1. Under agenda item 5 of the Working Group on Tanks in March 2019 a discussion took place on the interpretation of roll-over protection requirements for Vacuum-Operated Waste Tanks. This followed discussions on this topic at the March and September 2018 sessions of the Working Group on Tanks.
2. The Working Group reached agreement that the ADR requirements relating to the roll-over protection for Vacuum-Operated Waste Tanks is not sufficiently clear and that the text should be clarified to ensure a common interpretation. The United Kingdom was therefore invited, on behalf of the group, to submit a revised proposal to amend the relevant text of ADR taking into account the comments made at the March 2019 session.
3. The purpose of this paper is therefore to propose amendments that clarify the text in respect to roll-over protection for Vacuum-Operated Waste Tanks and propose transitional measures for tanks not meeting these requirements before the amendments come into force.

Proposals

Proposal 1

Introduce new text to 6.10.3.1 to read (new wording in **bold** and underlined):

- “6.10.3.1 The items of equipment shall be so arranged as to be protected against the risk of being wrenched off or damaged during carriage or handling. This requirement can be fulfilled by placing the items of equipment in a so called "protected area" (see 6.10.1.1.1). **If items of equipment are placed in the “protected area” at the top part of the tank (see 6.10.1.1(b)), then the requirements of 6.8.2.1.28 shall apply unless the items of equipment are constructed in such a way that leakage from the tank would not occur in the event of any damage or impact that may be caused by overturning.”**”

Proposal 2

Introduce a new transitional measure in 1.6.3.35 to read (new wording in **bold** and underlined):

- “1.6.3.35 Vacuum-Operated Waste Tanks constructed before 1 July 2021 in accordance with the requirements in force up to 31 December 2020 but which do not conform to the requirements of 6.10.3.1 applicable from 1 January 2021 may still be used.”**

Justification

4. The current text of ADR defines a “protected area” (6.10.1.1.1(b)) on the upper part of the tank in which items of equipment are considered protected against the risk of being wrenched off or damaged *during carriage or handling*. However, whilst items of equipment are considered protected against being wrenched off or damaged *during carriage or handling* in this area, the text of ADR is not clear on whether items of equipment must also be protected against damage that may be caused by *overturning* (see Informal document INF.17 of September 2018).
5. Given that two different interpretations are considered possible, the above proposals seek to clarify the text to make it clear that the overturn protection requirements of paragraph 6.8.2.1.28 (or equivalent safety provisions) apply to Vacuum-Operated Waste Tanks and allow the continued use of any tanks constructed before this clarification enters into force. Agreement has been reached in the Working Group on Tanks that the current requirements are unclear and these amendments are therefore needed to ensure a consistent approach is taken by contracting parties.

6. The full justification for these proposals can be found in the following documents: ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2019/17 of the March 2019 session and INF.17 of the September 2018 session.
