

Proposal for the 04 series of amendments to UN Regulation No. 118 (Burning behaviour of materials)

Submitted by the experts of the Informal Working Group on Behaviour of M₂ and M₃ vehicles in case of Fire Event*

The text reproduced below was prepared by the Informal Working Group (IWG) on Behaviour of M₂ and M₃ vehicles in case of Fire Event (BMFE) in charge to evaluate and develop the opportunity for regulatory amendment(s) aimed at increasing the safety of M₂ and M₃ vehicles in case of fire by improving requirements related to behaviour of materials used. This proposal amends the working document referenced ECE-TRANS-WP.29-GRSG-2020-21e. The modifications to the current proposal ECE-TRANS-WP.29-GRSG-2020-21e are marked in red and strikethrough characters.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2020 as outlined in proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (part V sect. 20) para 20.37), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update UN Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.

I. Proposal

Insert new paragraphs 12.15. to 12.18., to read:

- “12.15. As from the official date of entry into force of the 04 series of amendments, no Contracting Party applying this Regulation shall refuse to grant or refuse to accept type-approvals under this Regulation as amended by the 04 series of amendments.
- 12.16. As from 1 September [2022], Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall not be obliged to accept type-approvals of vehicle or component to the preceding series of amendments, first issued after 1 September [2022].
- 12.17. Until 1 September [2024], Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall accept type-approvals of vehicle or component to the preceding series of amendments, first issued before 1 September [2022].
- 12.18. As from 1 September [2024], Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall not be obliged to accept type-approvals of vehicle or component issued to the preceding series of amendments to this Regulation.”

Annex 2, insert new item 5. And 5.1. to read:

- “5. Adhesive agents
- 5.1. ~~In cases where adhesive agents are used to affix the material to supporting structures or bonding materials together,~~ List of the adhesive agents that can be used without deterioration of the burning behaviour of the material(s): ...”

Part I, insert new paragraph 5.2.4.1. and 5.2.4.2. to read:

- “5.2.4.1 Single materials fulfilling the relevant requirements of paragraphs 6.2.1. to 6.2.7., that are bonded together by an adhesive agent not exacerbating the burning behaviour are considered to fulfil the requirements as a composite material. **The information document in Annex 2 shall contain a list of adhesive agents that can be used without deterioration of the burning behaviour of the material.**
- 5.2.4.2. If an adhesive agent, that is not declared in Annex 2, paragraph 5.1. to not deteriorate the burning behaviour of the interior material, is used to affix the interior material to its supporting structure, such material shall be tested in combination with the adhesive agent and a possible supporting structure.”

II. Justification

Influence of adhesive agents

In order to clarify the installation requirements of paragraph 5.2.4., stating that adhesives shouldn't exacerbate the established burning behaviour of materials/components, the manufacturer of the component/material should list which adhesives is to be used for installation purposes. After physical evaluations of burning behaviours, no general trend can be expected regarding the influence of such adhesive agent. References by the manufacturer to the only categories of agents that can be used seems to be the best opportunity to control this installation.
