

OTIF



**ORGANISATION INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE POUR
LES TRANSPORTS INTERNATIONAUX FERROVIAIRES**

**ZWISCHENSTAATLICHE ORGANISATION FÜR DEN
INTERNATIONALEN EISENBAHNVERKEHR**

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION FOR INTER-
NATIONAL CARRIAGE BY RAIL**

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Subject: Securing folding panels to tank-wagons

Proposal transmitted by the International Union of Railways (UIC)

Introduction

When carrying gases of Class 2 in tank-wagons approved for different gases (multiple use), particular care must be taken to check that the correct folding panels are visible on both sides of the wagon (see RID 4.3.3.4.1 (a), second sentence).

However, in practice, it is repeatedly noted that the correct folding panels are no longer visible or are no longer sufficiently visible during carriage because of impacts, vibrations or unintentional actions. They hang down unsecured, are not properly locked in position or are skewed as a result of the tank-wagon tilting. This presents a serious accident risk for people near the wagon (see Annex).

Proposals

To resolve this problem, UIC proposes,

a) to amend 4.3.3.4.1 (a), second sentence, to read as follows:

“Tank-wagons for multiple use shall especially be checked to ensure that the correct folding panels are visible and securely fixed on both sides of the wagon.”

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b) add the following new sentence to the end of 6.8.3.5.7 (left-hand column):

"The moveable panels shall be so designed that they cannot unfold or become loose from the frame as a result of impacts or unintentional actions."

Justification

Apart from possible accident risks during carriage, unsecured folding panels may also cause problems in official checks and with the consignee of the tank-wagon, as the gas being carried cannot be determined straight away.

As folding panels are also used on petroleum tank-wagons, for example, it is also suggested that it be checked whether requirements for folding panels be incorporated into the provisions for all classes.
