RID: 45th Session of the RID Committee of Experts  
(Berne, 16 May 2008)

Subject: Correction to the draft notification texts OTIF/RID/NOT/2009

Proposal transmitted by Belgium

Related documents

Report ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/108, paragraph 92  
Document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2007/27 (Belgium)  
Draft notification texts OTIF/RID/NOT/2009

Introduction

1. At the Joint Meeting in September 2007, Belgium submitted document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2007/27. The document dealt with the clarification of ADR 5.3.2.1.6 and RID 5.3.2.1.2 concerning the affixing of orange-coloured plates to tanks with tank compartments.

2. At the moment, ADR 5.3.2.1.6 says that the orange-coloured plates may be affixed to the front and rear of vehicles carrying only one substance. Belgium’s wish was to make clear that the orange-coloured plates may be affixed to the front and rear of vehicles carrying only one dangerous substance (i.e. including cases where a dangerous substance and a non-dangerous substance are being carried).

3. The Joint Meeting rejected this. Instead, the text was reworded to make clear that the orange-coloured plates may only be affixed to the front and rear if only one substance (one dangerous substance and no non-dangerous substance) is being carried.
4. Thus Belgium’s proposal was not adopted. The text of ADR was amended in order to rule out any misunderstanding (but in the opposite sense to Belgium’s proposal).

5. RID 5.3.2.1.2 was not discussed at the Joint Meeting. In view of the fact that Belgium’s proposal was not adopted for ADR, the RID text should not be amended along the lines of document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2007/27 either. However, in RID 5.3.2.1.2, the word “dangerous” was also inserted. In Belgium’s view, this is an error that should be eliminated.

Proposal

6. In the draft notification texts OTIF/RID/NOT/2009, the instruction to amend 5.3.2.1.2 should be deleted.

Justification

7. At present, the situation in RID is as follows: if different substances are carried in several tank compartments, the plate must be affixed to the tank compartment in which the corresponding substance is being carried – this also applies if there is a tank compartment with a dangerous substance and a tank compartment with a non-dangerous substance. By amending the text to read “a number of different dangerous substances”, the provision is no longer valid if there is a tank compartment with a dangerous substance and a tank compartment with a non-dangerous substance. This does not accord with the Joint Meeting’s decision.

Feasibility

8. The current situation remains unchanged.