Subject: Marking of tanks intended for the carriage of compressed, liquefied or dissolved gases and equipped with safety valves

Proposal transmitted by the Secretariat

Introduction

1. On the basis of Liquid Gas Europe’s proposal in ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/2021/36, which was submitted on behalf of the BLEVE working group, the Joint Meeting decided at its meeting from 21 September to 1 October 2021 to prescribe the mandatory fitting of safety valves on tank-vehicles and tank-containers for the carriage of flammable liquefied gases.

2. The Secretariat had submitted document OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2021/4 to the 13th session of the standing working group, in which it was proposed that the technical requirements of the new 6.8.3.2.9 applicable to tank-vehicles and tank-containers from 2023 should also be applied to safety valves fitted to tank-wagons on a voluntary basis.

3. This proposal was adopted, together with a transitional measure. At the same time, the standing working group agreed that the marking adopted in principle at the last Joint Meeting for ADR tank-vehicles and for tank-containers should also be prescribed for tank-wagons (see report OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2021-A, paragraphs 11 to 14).

4. With regard to the marking of tanks for the carriage of flammable liquefied gases fitted with safety valves, document OTIF/RID/RC/2022/12 was submitted to the last Joint Meeting by Liquid Gas Europe on behalf of the BLEVE working group, together with informal document INF.20, which was adopted by the Joint Meeting (see OTIF/RID/RC/2022/R.1/Add.3, paragraphs 25 and 26 and OTIF/RID/RC/2022/R.2/Add.2).

5. In document OTIF/RID/RC/2022/R.2/Add.2, the report of the last Joint Meeting (document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/164, Annex I), the Secretariat included the following texts in square brackets so that the standing working group can discuss them separately:
6.8.3.2.9.6.7
(Left-hand column)
“The marks shall be displayed on both sides of tank-wagons.”

1.6.3
Insert the following new transitional provision 1.6.3.60:

“1.6.3.60 Tank-wagons that are already fitted with safety valves meeting the requirements of 6.8.3.2.9 as applicable from 1 January 2023 do not need to display the marks in accordance with 6.8.3.2.9.6 until the next intermediate or periodic inspection after 31 December 2023.”

6. The Secretariat is of the opinion that for the two texts mentioned in paragraph 5, the square brackets should be removed for the following reasons:

– The new safety valve mark should also be affixed to tank-wagons fitted with safety valves on a voluntary basis (see also the standing working group’s decision in principle in paragraph 3).
– For tank-wagons, a transitional measure should also be included for affixing the new safety valve marks, along the lines of the transitional measures adopted by the Joint Meeting for ADR tank-vehicles and tank-containers.

Proposal

7. In document [OTIF/RID/NOT/2023], in 1.6.3.60 and in 6.8.3.2.9.7 (left-hand column), delete the square brackets. Include the texts reproduced in paragraph 5 in the final version of the notification texts.

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