48TH SESSION

[draft] Progress report concerning the drafting and updating of UTP application guides
Article 21 § 4 of the ATMF UR gives the Committee of Technical Experts (CTE) the competence to recommend methods and practices relating to the technical admission of railway material used in international traffic. The UTP application guides are examples of such recommended methods and practices.

The UTP application guides published on OTIF’s website provide explanations concerning the UTPs and aim to facilitate common understanding of how to apply the UTP requirements. The UTP application guides should be read and used in conjunction with the relevant UTPs. For some of the UTPs, application guides already exist, while for other UTPs these are still pending. The existing UTP application guides need to be updated in order to reflect modifications to the UTPs or to describe the experience gained in applying them.

The UTPs are based on European Union TSIs. Similarly, the UTP application guides are based on the TSI application guides issued by the European Union Agency for Railways.

In the UTPs, the differences in substance compared to the TSIs are indicated by using a two-column layout. In the UTP application guides, OTIF text that is additional to that of the TSI application guides is shown in blue rectangles. The texts in these blue rectangles provide information relating to the differences between the TSI and the UTP. All text that is not in blue rectangles stems from the TSI application guides. All texts, both in and outside the blue rectangles, are part of the UTP application guides.

Where the original texts taken over from the TSI application guides refer to TSI, this should be read as a reference to the UTP. Where the TSI application guides use the term “Member State”, this should be understood as “Contracting State” in the context of OTIF texts.

In accordance with the 2022/2023 work programme of the CTE, the OTIF Secretariat was requested to prepare proposals to update the UTP application guides, starting with application guides relating to UTPs relevant to freight wagons. Consequently, the first two application guides were prepared for the UTP WAG (concerning freight wagons) and UTP NOI (concerning rolling stock noise).

The draft revised UTP application guides were prepared as follows:
- An MS Word file of the latest version of the relevant TSI application guide was taken as the basis;
- The blue rectangles from the previous version of the UTP application guide were copied into the file and amended or deleted where necessary, and some text in new blue rectangles was added;
- The texts that are not in blue rectangles, and which have been copied from the latest TSI application guides, have not been changed.

At its 47th and 48th sessions, WG TECH reviewed the two draft application guides for the UTP WAG and UTP NOI. It had no further comments on them and agreed to submit them to the CTE for approval.

A) APPLICATION GUIDE FOR UTP WAG (TECH-22014)

The proposal for a revised application guide for UTP WAG was updated on the basis of the ERA guide for the application of the TSI for freight wagons (reference GUI/WAG TSI/2021), version 3.0 dated 15 February 2021.

The information is relevant for application of the OTIF UTP for freight wagons, which entered into force on 1 January 2022.

B) APPLICATION GUIDE FOR UTP NOI (TECH-22020)

The proposal for a revised application guide for UTP NOI was updated on the basis of the ERA guide for the application of the NOI TSI (reference ERA/GUI/NOI TSI/2019), version 1.0 dated 16 May 2019.
The information is relevant for application of the OTIF UTP relating to rolling stock noise, which entered into force on 1 April 2021.

[DRAFT] PROPOSAL FOR DECISION

The Committee of Technical Experts takes note of the progress report, reference TECH-22044 of [date], concerning the drafting and updating of UTP application guides.

The Committee of Technical Experts approves the Guide for the application of the Uniform Technical Prescription concerning the subsystem: “Rolling stock – Freight Wagons” (UTP WAG), reference TECH-22014 of [date], and requests the Secretary General to publish it on OTIF’s website.

The Committee of Technical Experts approves the Guide for the application of the Uniform Technical Prescription concerning the subsystem: “Rolling stock – NOISE” (UTP NOI), reference TECH-22020 of [date], and requests the Secretary General to publish it on OTIF’s website.