



Committee of Technical Experts, results

The Committee of Technical Experts (CTE) held its eleventh session on 12 and 13 June 2018 in Bern. 30 OTIF Contracting States, the European Union, OSJD, GCC, CER, NB Rail and UNIFE were represented.

The OTIF Secretariat presented the status update of national technical requirements. Following agreement on the importance of making such information publicly available, the Committee requested Working Group TECH to analyse the need for further action, including possible modification of the provisions of APTU Articles 12 “National technical requirements” and 13 “Equivalence table”.

With regard to developments in the Contracting States’ National Vehicle Registers (NVR), the Committee invited the European Union to present developments in the future European Vehicle Register (EVR) at the next Working Group TECH, including measures to ensure that the non-EU NVR and EVR remain connected.

The Secretariat proposed modifications to the Uniform Technical Prescription (UTP) GEN-B concerning the definition of subsystems. The EU proposed to update the UTP Telematic Applications for Freight. The voting on both proposals will take place using a written procedure in the second half of 2018.

Until now, COTIF’s technical provisions have dealt mainly with vehicles. CTE agreed to develop provisions covering infrastructure, although the admission of infrastructure would remain a national competence. The aim of this development is to promote compatibility between neighbouring lines and networks, without compromising the coherence between international lines and domestic networks. The WG TECH would develop proposals.

CTE agreed on the strategy concerning the facilitation of route compatibility checks by railway undertakings. A list of vehicle and infrastructure parameters to be checked by railway undertakings and the procedures to be applied to such checks will be developed by WG TECH, together with the European Union Agency for Railways.

Switzerland gave a presentation on extra-large tank-containers intended to be carried on flat wagons. The Committee requested that the Joint Coordinating Group of Experts – composed of dangerous goods and technical experts - examine the case and present its views.

For more information: www.otif.org > Technology > Committee of Technical Experts.