

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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**RID: 1st Session of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group
(Riga, 12 – 15 November 2012)**

Subject: Expert performing tests and inspections on tanks of tank-wagons

Proposal transmitted by Italy

1. The main aim of an inspection expert is to ensure that all tests and inspections on the tanks of tank-wagons are performed according to the RID requirements.
2. The RID Contracting States have to communicate the stamp and marking stamp to the Secretariat of OTIF for publishing.
3. Some States, like Italy, have communicated experts' references, ensuring through the use of a numerical code that there is a link between the inspector, the notified body and the stamp. This choice was made for the following reasons:
 - to guarantee the complete traceability of the process; everyone can check whether each inspector fulfills all the requirements;
 - to reduce the risk of having experts who work under the authorisation of their own organisation without all the necessary personal skills required for this specific activity;
 - to make it easy to check whether each expert works on an ongoing basis, thus maintaining, his/her level of knowledge in this field.
4. Some other States have interpreted the meaning of 6.8.2.4.6 in a different way, and consider that it is sufficient to indicate a stamp valid for all experts related to a notified body.

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5. The difference referred to could on the one hand lead to distortion of the market between the notified bodies of different States, and on the other hand, between an individual expert and a notified body.

Conclusion and proposal

6. Italy considers important the reasons why it was decided to provide unique identification of experts through the use of a numerical code, and therefore proposes to amend the last but one sentence of 6.8.2.4.6 as follows:

"The RID Contracting States shall communicate to the secretariat of OTIF the experts who have been approved with respect to the particular inspections. The information shall include an identification code, different for each expert, the stamp and the marking stamp. The secretariat of OTIF shall publish a list of approved experts and shall ensure that this list is kept up to date."

7. In any case, as the current wording has led to two different interpretations, while representing different responsibilities that would result depending on whether or not the expert belongs to a notified body (TPED directive), it is considered necessary to amend the last but one sentence at the end of 6.8.2.4.6 as follows:

"The RID Contracting States shall communicate to the secretariat of OTIF the experts and/or the notified body who have been approved with respect to the particular inspections. The information shall include the stamp and the marking stamp. The secretariat of OTIF shall publish a list of approved experts and shall ensure that this list is kept up to date."
