



OTIF/RID/CE/GTP/2014/20

3 October 2014

Original: German

**RID:** 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group  
(Madrid, 17 - 20 November 2014)

**Subject:** Clarification of the provision concerning the protective distance in RID 7.5.3

**Proposal transmitted by Austria**

#### SUMMARY

**Explanatory summary:** RID 7.5.3 gives an imprecise list of the cases in which a protective distance has to be maintained and the possibilities for achieving this.

**Decision to be taken:** Amend the text to add other variations that might be considered.

**Related documents:** –

#### Introduction

1. RID 7.5.3 prescribes that "every wagon or large container containing substances or articles of Class 1 and bearing a placard conforming to models Nos. 1, 1.5 or 1.6, shall be separated on the same train from wagons or large containers bearing a placard conforming to models Nos. 2.1, 3, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5.1 or 5.2 by a protective distance".

The required distances is to be measured as "the space between the buffer head of a wagon or the end wall of a large container and the buffer head of another wagon or the end wall of another large container".

2. Explosive substances requiring a corresponding placard may also be carried in portable tanks. For goods of other classes, tank-containers and MEGCs may also be considered in addition to portable tanks.
3. Portable tanks, tank-containers and MEGCs are not covered by the term "wagon" or by the term "container", and hence not by the term "large container" either. Therefore, they should also be referred to in RID 7.5.3.

### Proposal

4. Amend 7.5.3 to read as follows:

#### "7.5.3 Protective distance

Every wagon, large container or portable tank containing substances or articles of Class 1 and bearing a placard conforming to models Nos. 1, 1.5 or 1.6, shall be separated on the same train from wagons, large containers, portable tanks, tank-containers or MEGC bearing a placard conforming to models Nos. 2.1, 3, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5.1 or 5.2 by a protective distance.

The requirement for this protective distance is met if the space between the buffer head of a wagon or the end wall of a large container or portable tank and the buffer head of another wagon or the end wall of another large container, portable tank, tank-container or MEGC is:

- (a) at least 18 m, or
- (b) occupied by two 2-axle wagons or a wagon with 4 or more axles."

#### Justification (safety, feasibility, enforceability)

5. The amendment is an editorial alignment with amendments to RID that have already been made (explosive substances in portable tanks) and with defined meanings of terms. The more consistent wording is an aid to safety and uniform implementation and enforcement.

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