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Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Geneva, 11-15 September 2006
Agenda item 2

TANKS*

Materials for covers of shells with lining

Proposal submitted by the Government of France

Summary

Executive Summary: The proposal seeks to permit the use of non-metallic materials for covers of shells with lining.

Action to be taken: Amendment to 6.8.2.1.8.

* Circulated by the Central Office for International Carriage by Rail (OCTI) under the symbol OCTI/RID/GT-III/2006/33.

Introduction

1. Paragraph 6.8.2.1.8 of ADR specifies that tanks, i.e. the casing containing the material (including the openings and stop-valves), must be constructed from metallic materials. This requirement therefore applies to covers of shells, which creates certain enforcement problems in respect of shells with an inner protective lining.
2. This is because lined manhole covers and inspection and cleansing hatches are often subject to premature wear, especially around the joints and anchor screws. Such wear results in the destruction or deterioration of the lining leading to corrosion of metallic parts, which can eventually compromise leakproofness and mechanical pressurization.
3. In addition, complete leakproofness is often very hard to achieve in the case of lined covers that are very heavy and therefore difficult to manipulate.
4. Accordingly, it is proposed to authorize the use of non-metallic materials for the construction of covers if the tank has a protective lining.

Proposal

5. Add the following sentence to paragraph 6.8.2.1.8:

“Where a tank has been fitted with an inner lining, it is not necessary to construct the manhole covers and inspection and cleansing hatches from a metallic material, provided they are designed to withstand operating conditions and tests, and that the material used is compatible with the goods being transported.”

Rationale

Safety: No problems.

Feasibility: No problems.

Practical implementation: This option will make it possible to address certain enforcement problems.
