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Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) (ADN Safety Committee)

Seventeenth session

Geneva, 23-27 August 2010

Item 5 b) of the provisional agenda

Proposals for amendments to the Regulations annexed to ADN: Amendments for entry into force on 1 January 2013

Harmonized tests after the ADN refresher course

Transmitted by the Government of the Netherlands^{1 2}

Introduction

1. At its sixteenth session (Geneva, 25-29 January 2010), the ADN Safety Committee discussed an informal document submitted by the Government of the Netherlands regarding the possible introduction of a mandatory examination for the ADN refresher course. Article 8.2.2.1 of the regulations annexed to ADN states that exercises and tests should ensure that participants take an active role in the training. However, during the discussion in Geneva it was noted that the testing methods and requirements in countries differ and that harmonization in this field was called for.

2. The Safety Committee agreed that the question of whether it was necessary to have an examination following refresher courses should be discussed first by the informal working group on the catalogue of questions (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/34, para. 60). The

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² In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2010–2014 (ECE/TRANS/2010/8, programme activity 02.7 (b) and ECE/TRANS/208, para. 106).

informal working group met on 17-18 February 2010 in Strasbourg and made the proposal which appears below.

3. Participants agreed that active participation during refresher courses was an absolute necessity and that expertise was lost or became out-dated in the period after first receiving the ADN certificate. It was necessary during the course to refresh the knowledge of participants with respect to the transport of dangerous goods and the ADN. Trade and industry also expected and required active participation during the refresher course.

Proposal

4. Add the following text under 8.2.2.1:

"Refresher course test

Theoretical knowledge shall be tested at the end of the refresher course by the training institute.

To this end, multiple-choice questions from the current catalogue of questions shall be used.

The test shall be in writing. Participants shall be asked 30 multiple-choice questions. The test shall last one hour maximum. Participants shall be successful if at least 25 of the 30 questions have been answered correctly. During the test, participants may consult the texts of regulations on dangerous goods and the European Code for Inland Navigation (CEVNI).

At least 25% of the questions shall deal with important changes in the ADN over recent years i.e. since the last time the participant was tested or examined.

Should a participant fail the test, he/she can retake the test within a period of four weeks.

Should the participant fail once again, the participant's ADN expert certificate will not be renewed.

The training institute shall keep the test results for a period of five years.

The competent authority shall monitor the testing practices of the training institute on a regular basis."