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World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

Working Party on Passive Safety

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Item 11 of the provisional agenda

Regulation No. 16 (Safety-belts)**Proposal for Supplement 1 to the 06 series of amendments to Regulation No. 16****Submitted by the expert from the European Association of Automotive Suppliers***

The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from the European Association of Automotive Suppliers (CLEPA) in order to facilitate buckling up of safety-belts in vehicles. It is based on a document without symbol (GRSP-46-12) distributed during the forty-sixth session of the Working Party on Passive Safety (GRSP). The modifications to the current text of Regulation No. 16 are marked in bold or strikethrough characters.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2006-2010 (ECE/TRANS/166/Add.1, programme activity 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.

I. Proposal

Paragraph 6.2.2.2., amend to read:

“6.2.2.2. The buckle, even when not under tension,.... The buckle release area shall be coloured red. No other part of the buckle shall be of this colour. **Red warning light in any part of the buckle is permitted if it is switched off after the occupant has buckled.**”

II. Justification

In order to facilitate buckling up in vehicles, especially in the dark, a visual connection between the seat-belt reminder as described in 8.4. and the buckle could be installed. Therefore, one or more red warning lights have to be installed into the buckle. The warning light in the buckle is synchronized with the visual warning as described in 8.4.2.1. In the second level warning as described in 8.4.2.4., the red warning light in the buckle should flash in the beat of the audible warning 8.4.2.1.3. Thus, it is very clear to the occupant that the warning is connected with a non-used seat-belt.

In order not to influence emergency rescue of the occupant, it has to be made sure, that the red light switches off after the occupant has buckled up.

So far, it is not permitted to install red warning lights into the buckle. Thus, to implement a safety strategy as explained before, the regulation has to be amended.
