Executive summary: The transport of UN 0331 in ADR tanks is to be permitted as already approved and supported by the Working Group on Tanks of the Joint Meeting RID/ADR/ADN.

Action to be taken: Amend Table A of Chapter 3.2, Sections 4.3.2, 4.3.4, 4.3.5, 6.8.4 and Chapter 9.7.

Related documents: ECE/TRANS/WP.15/212, paragraphs 35 to 37 (Report of the Working Party on its ninety-first session)
Informal documents INF.11 (Secretariat) and INF.14 (Germany) of the ninety-first session

Introduction

1. The Working Party noted in its ninety-first session in November 2011 that the Working Group on Tanks of the Joint Meeting had approved the carriage of UN No. 0331 in ADR tanks and had set out the technical requirements applicable to such carriage.

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1 The present document is submitted in accordance with paragraph 1(c) of the terms of reference of the Working Party, as contained in document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/190/Add.1, which provides a mandate to “Develop and update the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR)”.

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15 February 2012
2. The Working Party supported the introduction of new provisions to enable the transport of UN No. 0331 in ADR tanks while maintaining the 16 tons limit for the quantities carried. The representative of Germany got the opportunity to provide a draft proposal for comments and to submit a revised proposal at the next session for possible introduction into ADR 2013.

3. In December 2011, Germany circulated its proposal among those delegations that had shown interest at the ninety-first session in further considering this issue, and invited them to participate in an informal working group in Germany on 1 and 2 February 2012.

4. The delegations from Sweden and Norway sent written comments. The participants of the informal meeting included, besides the German delegation to WP.15 and the German experts, the Finnish delegate and an expert from the government of the United Kingdom.

A report on this meeting will be submitted as an informal document before the ninety-second session.

5. After receiving detailed information on explosive substances of Division 1.5 D which are carried under UN No. 0331 and on the current possibilities for carriage, and after an in-depth discussion of the proposals for amendments taking into account the written comments, the working group confirmed the proposals in detail. The concerns expressed by some delegations to the Working Party relating to which authority should be allowed to approve the suitability for carriage in tanks were addressed and implemented in an amendment to special provision TU39. It was finally agreed to maintain for the time being the upper limit of 16 tons regarding the carriage of explosives.

Proposal

6. In accordance with the results achieved by the informal working group, Germany proposes to make the following amendments to ADR, with entry into force on 1 January 2013:

(a) For UN 0331 in Table A of Chapter 3.2:

Insert in column 12: S2.65AN(+)

Insert in column 13: TU3, TU12, TU39, TC8, TA1

(b) Add a new (a) to 4.3.4.1.3 with the following text (re-numbering existing paragraphs as (b) to (i)):

"(a) Class 1.5 UN 0331 Explosive, Blasting, Type B: code S2.65AN;

(c) Amend the heading of 4.3.4 to read: “Special provisions applicable to Classes 1 and 3 to 9”.

(d) Amend the last sentence of 4.3.2.1.2 to read: “The explanations for reading the four parts of the code are given in 4.3.3.1.1 (when the substance to be carried belongs to Class 2) and in 4.3.4.1.1 (when the substance to be carried belongs to Classes 1 and 3 to 9).”.

(e) Amend in Section 4.3.5 the second sentence of the description to special provision TU39 to read as follows:

“The method to evaluate this suitability shall be approved by the competent authority of any ADR Contracting Party who may also recognize an approval granted by the competent authority of a country which is not a ADR Contracting Party provided that this approval has been granted in accordance
with the procedures applicable according to RID, ADR, ADN, the IMDG Code or the ICAO Technical Instructions.”.

(f) In Section 6.8.4 (b) add a new a special provision TC8 as follows:

“TC8: The shells shall be made of aluminium or aluminium alloy.”.

(g) Amend footnote 1 to 4.3.1.2 to read: “An exception is made for tanks intended for the carriage of substances of classes 1, 5.2 or 7 (see 4.3.4.1.3).”

(h) Add a new Section at the end of Chapter 9.7:

“9.7.9 Additional safety requirements concerning EX III vehicles

9.7.9.1 EX/III vehicles shall be equipped with automatic fire extinguisher systems for the engine compartment.

9.7.9.2 Protection of the load by metal thermal shields against tyre fire shall be provided.”.

Justification

(a) Enabling the transport of UN 0331 in ADR tanks according to the identified practical needs:

(i) Tank code: Solids in tanks with a calculation pressure of 2.65 bar, bottom-filling/-discharge with 2 closures and without venting/not hermetically closed;

(ii) Necessary special provisions for use (TU3, TU12, TU39), for construction (TC8) and for approval (TA1).

(b), (c), (d), (g) – Consequential and editorial amendments

(e) Specification of the competent authority by amending the existing special provision, in line with the already adopted amendment to 2.2.1.1.8 - “Exclusion from Class 1” (see informal document INF.8 of the ninety-first session).

(f) Determination of the suitable material for the construction of the tanks as already confirmed by the tank working group of the Joint Meeting.

(h) Taking over the existing provisions for the similar (but not comparable) MEMUs, which also carry explosives, as special requirements for EX/III vehicles which in Table A are prescribed exclusively for the carriage of goods assigned to UN Nos. 0331 and 0332.