Economic Commission for Europe
Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

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

Geneva, 17-21 September 2012
Item 5(a) of the provisional agenda
Proposals for amendments to RID/ADR/ADN:
pending issues

Comments on ECE/WP.15/AC.1/2012/28

Principles for assignment of VW Codes

Transmitted by the Government of the United Kingdom
New VW codes:  

"VW1: Carriage in bulk in sheeted wagons, sheeted containers or sheeted bulk containers is permitted"  

"VW2: Carriage in bulk in closed wagons, closed containers or closed bulk containers is permitted"  

"VW13: Carriage in bulk is permitted in specially equipped wagons or containers in accordance with standards specified by the competent authority of the country of origin. If the country of origin is not a RID Contracting State, the conditions laid down shall be recognized by the competent authority of the first RID Contracting State reached by the consignment."

<table>
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<th>Current assignment</th>
<th>Proposed Assignment (New codes – see above)</th>
<th>Proposed Additional Provisions</th>
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</table>
| VW1                | VW1 + VW2                                | For UN 1408 & UN 3170 PGIII only:  
                      |                                          | [AP3: Sheeted wagons and sheeted containers shall be used only when the substance is in pieces (not in powder, granular, dust or ashes form.)]  
                      |                                          | For UN 1408 & UN 3170 PGIII only:  
                      |                                          | AP5: The cargo doors of the closed wagons or closed containers shall be marked with the following in letters not less than 25 mm high:  
                      |                                          | "WARNING NO VENTILATION OPEN WITH CAUTION"  
                      |                                          | This shall be in a language considered appropriate by the consignor.  
                      |                                          | For UN 1408 & UN 3170 PGIII only:  
                      |                                          | AP4: Closed wagons and closed containers shall be equipped with hermetically closed openings used for loading and unloading to prevent the exit of gas and exclude the ingress of moisture.  
                      |                                          | VW2/VW4                                    |
| VW2/VW4            | VW1 + VW2                                | AP1: Wagons and containers shall have a metal body and where fitted the sheet shall be non-combustible.  
                      |                                          | VW3                                        |
| VW3                | VW1 + VW2                                | AP2: Closed wagons and closed containers shall have adequate ventilation.  
                      |                                          | VW5/VW6/VW7                                |
| VW5/VW6/VW7        | VW1 + VW2                                | AP3: Sheeted wagons and sheeted containers shall be used only when the substance is in pieces (not in powder, granular, dust or ashes form.)  
                      |                                          | AP4: Closed wagons and closed containers shall be equipped with hermetically closed openings used for loading and unloading to prevent the exit of gas and exclude the ingress of moisture.  
                      |                                          | AP5: The cargo doors of the closed wagons or closed containers shall be marked with the following in letters not less than 25 mm high:  
                      |                                          | "WARNING NO VENTILATION OPEN WITH CAUTION"  
                      |                                          | This shall be in a language considered appropriate by the consignor.  
                      |                                          | VW8                                        |
| VW8                | VW1 + VW2                                | AP6: If the vehicle or container is made of wood or other combustible material an impermeable surfacing resistant to combustion or a coating of sodium silicate or similar substance shall be provided. Sheeting shall also be impermeable and non-combustible.  
                      |                                          | AP7: Carriage shall only be as a wagon load or a full load.  

VW9/VW10

VW1 + VW2

AP7: (except for UN 1841, UN 1931 and UN 2969) Carriage shall only be as a wagon load or a full load

VW11/VW12/ VW13

VW13

None.

VW14

VW1 + VW2

AP8: The design of the load compartment of wagons or containers shall take account of any residual currents and impacts from the batteries.

The load compartments of wagons or containers shall be of steel resistant to the corrosive substances contained in the batteries. Less resistant steels may be used when there is a sufficiently great wall thickness or when lining resistant to the corrosive substances. The load compartments of wagons or containers shall not be loaded above the top of their walls.

Carriage is also permitted in small plastics containers which shall be capable of withstanding, when fully loaded, a drop from a height of 0.8m on to a hard surface at -18°C, without breakage.

VW15

VW1 + VW2

AP9: Carriage is permitted for solids (substances or mixtures, such as preparations or wastes) containing on average not more than 1000 mg/kg of substance to which this UN number is assigned. At no point of the load shall the concentration of this substance or these substances be higher than 10000 mg/kg.

VW16/VW17

Refer to 4.1.9.2.3 in column 17 and column 10.