

## **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**

**27 February 2013**

Bern, 18–22 March 2013

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

**Standards**

### **Amended reference to EN ISO/IEC 17020**

#### **Transmitted by the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN)**

#### **Introduction**

1. At its session in September 2012 the Joint Meeting discussed the consequences of the revision of EN ISO/IEC 17020 which is referenced in various paragraphs of RID/ADR – see #24 of the report ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/128. Working Party WP.15 and the RID Committee of Experts were invited to take appropriate measures as soon as possible.
2. WP.15 and the RID Committee of Experts examined the proposed amendments by the Joint Meeting at its sessions in November 2012 – see ##22 – 24 of ECE/TRANS/WP.15/217 and #8 of OTIF/RID/CE/2012-B.
3. It is the understanding of CEN that WP.15 and the RID Committee of Experts would be prepared to lounge corrigenda to RID and ADR 2013 based on appropriate transitional measures prepared by the Working Group on Standards.
4. CEN takes note of the fact that the revised issue of EN ISO/IEC 17020:2012 has been published in the Official Journal of the European Union on 25.5.2012 indicating 30.9.2012 as the date of cessation of conformity of superseded standard.
5. CEN is aware that ILAC –the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation – whose decisions are regularly also adopted by the EA – the European Cooperation for Accreditation - has agreed at its General Assembly on 26 October 2012 on ILAC Resolution GA 16.23 which reads as follows:  
  
“As agreed by the ILAC membership in the ballot ‘Rationale for the proposed Period for Transition to ISO/IEC 17020:2012’ conducted in July 2012, the transition period for the implementation of ISO/IEC 17020:2012 Conformity assessment – Requirements for the operation of various types of inspection bodies performing inspection will expire on 1 March 2015. At this time, all accreditation certificates issued (as described in ISO/IEC 17011) must reference the 2012 edition of ISO/IEC 17020. Compliance will be determined during normal surveillance or reassessment activities or as a separate activity. “
6. CEN is further aware that CEN-CENELEC TC 1 has agreed in September 2012 on the following Decision 2012/01:  
  
“CEN/CLC/TC 1 requests CEN ask the European Commission to change the date of cessation of presumption of conformity for EN ISO 17020:2004 published in the Official Journal to 1st March 2015. “

A resolution of this issue has not been reached, so far.

## Discussion

7. Following the principles applied in comparable issues of transition regulations clarification about extent and character of the amendments in the revised standard is crucial.

8. EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004 has been amended as follows:

- Change of title.
- Adaptation of structure following the ISO/IEC 17000 standard series.
- Completion and adaptation of terms and definitions acc to EN ISO 9000:2005-12 and ISO/IEC 17000:2005-03.
- Revision and more detailed definition of impartiality, independence and confidentiality.
- Revision and more detailed criteria for inspection bodies Types A, B and C
- Revised structure of former Annexes A, B and C.
- Revised and completed requirements on personnel.
- Completion and more detailed requirements on inspection reports inspection and certificates together with new Annex B (informative).
- Replacement of text in clause 15 (complaints and objections) by the one of ISO/PAS 17003:2004, 7.5 und 7.6.
- Replacement of clause 7 (Quality management) and Annex D by the related text of ISO/PAS 17005:2008.
- Deletion of clause 16 (Cooperation).
- Adding of ISO/IEC Guide 99:2007 to the Literature.

9. To the valuation of CEN, in agreement with the Chair of CEN/CENELEC TC 1 these amendments are NOT characterized as substantive and don't justify shortened or more stringent transition regulations.

10. The discussion of the date of cessation of presumption of conformity for EN ISO 17020:2004 published in the Official Journal, as mentioned in paragraph 6 above is seen as irrelevant in the context of the referencing of EN ISO/IEC 17020 in RID/ADR with the following reasoning:

Whereas the publication of this standard in the Official Journal states the conformity with the essential requirements of Regulation (EC) 765/2008, Decision 768/2008 and Regulation (EC) 1221/2009, the references to this standard in RID/ADR are not bound to essential requirements of RID/ADR – they are termed to be additional requirements:

*1.8.6.8 The inspection body shall ...*

*The inspection body shall additionally be accredited to the standard EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004, as specified in 6.2.2.10, 6.2.3.6 and TA4 and TT9 of 6.8.4.*

*..... the competent authority shall ensure that the inspection body meets the requirements of the standard EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004. ...*

11. Following this information and reasoning CEN asks to consider the following proposals for the text of corrigenda to RID/ADR 2013:

## Proposal 1

12. Replace “EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004” by “EN ISO/IEC 17020:2012” in RID/ADR

- Subsection 1.8.6.8 (twice),

- Subsection 6.2.2.10 (three times),
- Subsection 6.2.3.6.1 (three times),
- Section 6.8.4, TA4 and TT9.

## **Proposal 2**

13. Add, above the last paragraph of Subsection 1.8.6.8 the following new paragraph:

“Accreditations issued on the basis of the previous version EN ISO/IEC 17020:2004 shall cease to be accepted as from 1 March 2015.”

## **Justification**

14. These proposals follow the decisions and agreements of the International and European Accreditation Cooperations on the consequences of the revision of EN ISO/IEC 17020.
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