
Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

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Item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda

**Proposals for amendments to Annexes A and B of ADR:
construction and approval of vehicles**

Construction and approval of vehicles

Transmitted by the Government of the United Kingdom

O₃ and O₄ trailers

Background

1. ADR includes only one reference to O₃ and O₄ trailers. This is at paragraph 8.3.8, which states that when a transport unit is equipped with an anti-lock braking system consisting of a motor vehicle and an O₃ or O₄ trailer, the vehicle and trailer must be connected during carriage by the connections referred to in 9.2.2.6.3.

2. According to 9.1.1.1, the requirements of Part 9 apply to all vehicles of categories N and O, as defined in Annex 7 of the Consolidated Resolution on the Construction of Vehicles (R.E.3) intended for the carriage of dangerous goods. R.E.3 includes the following definitions:

- Category N - Power-driven vehicles having at least four wheels and used for the carriage of goods
- Category O - Trailers (including semi-trailers)
- Category O₃ - Trailers with a maximum mass exceeding 3.5 tonnes, but not exceeding 10 tonnes.
- Category O₄ - Trailers with a maximum mass exceeding 10 tonnes.

It seems reasonable to suppose that the 8.3.8 text is intended to relate directly to these definitions, but this is not obvious and the process of seeking them out is convoluted.

3. The UK believes that there are several possible options for clarifying the text in this respect, either by including a reference to R.E.3 or by using the wording from R.E. 3 to replace the 8.3.8 text. The second would appear to be the most straightforward and user-friendly choice, but one of the alternatives is also given below.

Proposal

4. Amend 8.3.8 to read as follows (new text underlined):

«8.3.8 Use of cables

In the case of a transport unit equipped with an anti-lock braking system, consisting of a motor vehicle and ~~an O₃ or O₄ trailer~~ a trailer with a maximum mass exceeding 3.5 tonnes, the connections referred to in paragraph 9.2.2.6.3 shall be connecting the towing vehicle and the trailer at all times during carriage.»

Alternative proposal

Add a footnote to 8.3.8 as follows:

«...an O₃ or O₄ trailer¹.....»

¹ as defined in Annex 7 of the Consolidated Resolution on the Construction of Vehicles (R.E.3) (*Document of the UNECE, TRANS/WP.29/78/Rev.1, as amended*)
