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Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the
European Agreement concerning the International Carriage
of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)
(ADN Safety Committee)

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Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda

**Proposals for amendments to the Regulations annexed to ADN:
Other proposals**

Transitional provision relating to 9.3.X.51.3 (temperature class and explosion group)

Transmitted by the Government of Germany¹

Introduction

1. According to 9.3.X.51.3, for the selection of electrical equipment to be used in zones presenting an explosion risk, “the explosion groups and temperature classes assigned to the substances carried ... shall be taken into consideration”. The purpose of this provision is to reduce the risk of fire and explosion by an appropriate choice of electrical equipment.
2. The explosion group and temperature class of the electrical equipment on board, and the condition of that equipment, should be established on the first inspection of a tank vessel and in periodic inspections, and should be noted on the certificate of approval by the competent authority. The explosion group and temperature class of the electrical equipment on board are a central consideration when drawing up the list of substances on the vessel according to 1.16.1.2.5. Without that information erroneous particulars might be entered on the list of substances.

¹ Distributed in German by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine under the symbol CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/2015/12.



3. Because of the objective difficulties encountered in determining the characteristics of the electrical equipment on board vessels that have been in service for a long time, a transitional provision to 9.3.X.51.3 was inserted into the Regulations for the Carriage of Dangerous Goods on the Rhine (ADNR) in 1996. This transitional provision was intended to apply in the medium term and to lapse when new explosion protection provisions were drafted.

4. When fixed expiry dates for transitional provisions were introduced, vessels already in service were granted a transitional period in which to apply the provision, until renewal of the certificate of approval after 31 December 2034.

Proposed amendment

5. Given the changing age structure of the fleet of tank vessels, the potential safety gains from only modest investment and the expiry on 31 December 2018 of the transitional periods applicable to substances under 1.6.7.4.2, it would be advisable to adjust the period of applicability of the transitional provision relating to 9.3.X.51.3 as follows:

<i>Paragraph</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Expiry date and comments</i>
9.3.1.51.3	Temperature class and explosion group	N.R.M.
9.3.2.51.3		Renewal of approval certificate after 31
9.3.3.51.3		December 2034 31 December 2018

Justification

6. This change ensures that the temperature class and explosion protection of the electrical equipment on board are known and that the equipment is in good condition. The list of substances on the vessel can thus be drawn up on the basis of reliable information regarding the electrical equipment on board.

Safety

7. The gain in safety terms results from a clear classification of the substances that can be carried, the bringing of the oldest vessels into line with technical safety standards and a narrowing of the gap between the standard applicable to tank vessels already in service and that applicable to new tank vessels.

Practicability

8. Average investments of around €22,000 may be needed. The inspection and certification procedure remains unchanged.
