Special Provision 803 - Appropriate measuring procedures

Transmitted by the Government of the Netherlands and Euracoal

I. Introduction

1. The ADN Safety Committee adopted during its twenty-fifth session in August 2014 the proposal from Germany in ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2014/50. This proposal involves amending Special Provision 803 as currently in AND 2015 about the carriage of coal in bulk (UN1361) and introduces the phrase “appropriate measuring procedure” for determining the temperature of the coal (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/52, para. 21).

2. The Dutch delegation expressed the wish to specify more in detail what should be considered as an “appropriate measuring procedure”. In the absence of such clarification, the Dutch delegation expected possible discussion between terminals and inspection bodies within the Netherlands.

3. On proposal of the Chair, the Safety Committee requested the Netherlands to prepare a document for the next session, together with Euracoal to provide such clarification.

II. Proposal

4. For determining what should be considered as an “appropriate measuring procedure” the Dutch delegation and Euracoal would like to include existing procedures and measuring devices in terminals. These include measuring using a thermo lance, thermo camera or similar equipment.

5. The current measuring procedures in use are:

(a) measuring the temperature of the hard coal, coke and anthracite before loading using a thermo lance inserted in the stock pile or an infrared camera;

(b) measuring the temperature of the hard coal, coke and anthracite during loading: In case of using a belt e.g. at the end of the belt a heating sensor is installed or an infrared camera is used;

(c) measuring the temperature of the hard coal, coke and anthracite after loading using a thermo lance inserted into the cargo or an infrared camera.
III. Additional - measuring device on board (on behalf of the Netherlands only)

6. Special Provision 803, item (c) gives the carrier the obligation to measure the temperature of the cargo when the actual duration of carriage is more than 20 days.

7. From the point of view of the Dutch delegation this does not imply the obligation for the vessel to have a measuring device on board permanently. In case the temperature of the cargo has to be measured according to SP 803 (c) and the vessel does not have a suitable measuring device on board (e.g. thermo lance or infrared camera), the master has to inform the carrier and to arrange for the necessary measuring device immediately.

8. The Dutch delegation would like to know if there are any objections to this interpretation.