

## 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, 19–23 September 2016

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

##### Tanks

25 August 2016

### **Tanks: Informal Working Group on the inspection and certification of tanks**

#### **Transmitted by the Government of the United Kingdom**

#### **Summary**

1. The informal working group on the inspection and certification of tanks met for a fourth time in London on 11 to 13 July 2016 under the chairmanship of Mr. J. Mairs (United Kingdom). Representatives of Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, the Republic of Ireland, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, CLCCR, ITCO, and UIP participated. Apologies were received from Norway and IDGCA.

##### *Appointment, control and monitoring of inspection bodies.*

2. Discussion of a paper from the Netherlands on a “harmonised system for assessment, appointment and monitoring of inspection bodies” concluded that further work to improve these procedures was within the existing remit of the group. The group welcomed the offer of the Netherlands delegation to lead on the development of specific proposals.

3. The participants encouraged early distribution of the questionnaire to gather information on how contracting states/parties authorise bodies or approve experts for tank inspection and certification purposes, on what controls are placed on their activities and on how they are monitored.

##### *Harmonisation of inspection and approval procedures - proposed amendments to 1.8.6 & .7 and 6.8.2.*

4. The group focussed attention on proposed amendments to 1.8.6 & .7 and 6.8.2 of ADR submitted by France which built on proposals tabled previously by Germany and the UIP.

5. Very briefly, these proposals included drawing a clearer distinction between conformity assessment and the issuing of type approval certificates. Also there were proposals to introduce “entry into service checks” in to ADR when the country of registration is not the country of manufacture and supervision of manufacture and the type approval and initial inspection certificates are issued under the authority of a country other than the country of registration. It was proposed that such entry into service checks be conducted by the competent authority of registration or by an inspection body that is different to the one(s) used to assess the conformity of the type approval and initial inspection. This would provide an independent cross-check of compliance.

6. The proposals also added to the conditions to be met in order to qualify as an inspection body and introduced requirements for accreditation bodies.

7. Following the lead given by 1.15.2 of ADN, the proposals could also develop a system of recognition by other contracting states/parties of the appointment of inspection bodies by a competent authority that is notified to, and listed by, the UNECE Secretariat. There might also be an expanded role for competent authorities in notifying the Secretariat of any changes to the status of inspection bodies or to certificates issued in their name.

*Improvements to construction and inspection requirements.*

8. The Working Group concluded the session with an update from the UK on the technical work it was conducting under the auspice of the informal working group on:

- Exploring whether technical progress has resulted in suitable systems for remote visual inspection;
- Developing proposals for exceptional checks after repairs or alterations;
- Monitoring progress on revising EN13094 for assessing designs of tanker end dish to shell joints;
- Discussing controls on the quality of welds in positions on an aluminium tank shell of a tank vehicle that are particularly vulnerable to accident damage in the event of rollover and side impacts.

*Proposed further work for the informal working group on tank inspection and certification.*

9. The group intends to meet again on 13-15 December 2016 when it will, *inter alia*:

- Analyse the returns from Competent Authorities to the questionnaire on tank inspection and certification.
- Develop further the proposed text for amending RID/ADR 1.8.6 & .7 and 6.8.2 to achieve greater harmonisation of inspection and approval procedures for tanks for substances of Classes 3 to 9 with tanks for substances of Class 2. Within this text include proposals for improving the procedures for appointing and monitoring inspection bodies.
- Prepare a working paper for the spring 2017 session of the Joint Meeting containing proposed amendments for the 2019 Editions of RID and ADR.
- Report further on the technical work aimed at improving the construction and inspection requirements for tanks.

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