Proposal for adjusting the volume of fuel tanks installed on the transport unit

Transmitted by the Government of Belarus

Summary

Executive summary: Correction of the volume of fuel tanks fitted on the transport unit

Action to be taken: Amend paragraph 1.1.3.3

Introduction

1. The Belarusian Association of International Road Carriers, uniting more than 1000 transport organizations, addressed the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Belarus with a proposal on the improvement of international road transport.

2. According to paragraph 1.1.3.3 of Annex A to the ADR, the provisions of ADR do not apply to carriage of:

   (a) Fuel contained in the tanks of a vehicle performing a transport operation and destined for its propulsion or for the operation of any of its equipment used or intended for use during carriage.

   The fuel may be carried in fixed fuel tanks, directly connected to the vehicle’s engine and/or auxiliary equipment, which comply with the pertinent legal provisions, or may be carried in portable fuel containers (such as jerricans).

   The total capacity of the fixed tanks shall not exceed 1500 litres per transport unit and the capacity of the tank fitted to a trailer shall not exceed 500 litres. A maximum of 60 litres per transport unit may be carried in portable fuel containers. These restrictions shall not apply to vehicles operated by the emergency services.

3. Thus, the total capacity of the fixed fuel tanks cannot exceed 1500 litres per transport unit, including the combination of vehicles.

4. At the same time truck manufacturers of cargo vehicles install fuel tanks with a capacity of up to 1,500 litres, which becomes an obstacle to the use of such trucks in composition with refrigerated semi-trailers, which are equipped with a separate fuel tank for the operation of the
equipment, since in this case, the total capacity of the fuel tanks per transport unit exceeds 1500 litres.

5. This restriction prevents the effective use of vehicles by international carriers in the composition with semi-trailers-refrigerators.

Proposal

6. We propose not to consider in the general limitation on one transport unit the volume of fuel tanks installed on trailers/semi-trailers by the manufacturer necessary for the operation of additional equipment and to read third part of the paragraph 1.1.3.3 (a) as follows:

“The total capacity of the fixed tanks shall not exceed 1500 litres per transport unit excluding the capacity of the fuel tanks fitted by the manufacturer on the trailers/semi-trailers necessary for the operation of additional equipment. The capacity of the tank fitted to a trailer shall not exceed 500 litres. A maximum of 60 litres per transport unit may be carried in portable fuel containers. These restrictions shall not apply to vehicles operated by the emergency services”.

Justification

7. The adoption of this proposal will contribute to a more efficient use of vehicles by international carriers in the composition with refrigerated semi-trailers.