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Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

Proposals for amendments to annexes A and B of ADR: miscellaneous proposals

ADR Driver Training Certificates – 8.2.2.8 ADR

Submitted by the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC)*

Summary

Executive summary:	Description of security features for ADR-certificates in sub-section 8.2.2.8 to avoid forged documents.
Action to be taken:	Approve the proposed changes for 8.2.2.8 and the proposed new note at the end of 7.5.1.2.

Introduction

1. At the 106th session of the Working Party (WP.15) in May 2019 CEFIC presented informal document INF.4 concerning ADR Driver Training Certificates. The document received much attention and many delegates were also concerned about the validity of these certificates.
2. According to 8.2.1.1, "Drivers of vehicles carrying dangerous goods shall hold a certificate issued by the competent authority stating that they have participated in a training course and passed an examination...". Furthermore according 7.5.1.2, "...the loading shall not be carried out if an examination of the documents shows, that ...the vehicle crew ... do not comply with the regulatory provisions."
3. We receive more and more reports from member companies showing ADR certificates of questionable origin which they consider to be forged.
4. As per 8.2.2.8.6 contracting parties shall provide the UNECE secretariat with an example of the national model for any certificate intended for issue in accordance with this

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2018–2019 (ECE/TRANS/2018/21/Add.1, cluster 9, 9.1).

section. Examples of the ADR-certificates are published on the website of UNECE http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/adr/adr_certificates.html.

5. 8.2.2.8.3 ADR contains a description of the certificates and states that the certificates "*shall include an additional security feature such as a hologram, UV printing or guilloche patterns*".

6. Shippers have tried in vain to check the validity of presented ADR-certificates against the UNECE Website. The additional security features are not visible in most cases. Therefore, these examples are not very useful for compliance checks. If they ask the local (national) authorities (e.g. Police) they have the same source of information.

7. Consignors, loaders and freight forwarders must have the possibility to check the validity of the ADR-Certificates prior to loading the Dangerous Goods on the truck. This can be achieved by adding some explanatory text covering security measures on certificates to the Sample Certificates on the UNECE-Website. The availability of this data on the UNECE website would also significantly facilitate the work of law enforcement agencies in all ADR countries.

8. During the discussion at the previous meeting, the delegate of the European Union introduced their website https://ec.europa.eu/transport/road_safety/topics/driving-licence/models_en in respect of information on driving licenses. This of course is just an idea of how the problem could be solved by UNECE.

9. In addition to the above we have been informed, that the Competent Authority of Lithuania has already introduced a database where the validity of ADR-Certificates can be checked¹. The only current difficulty with that website is the lack of an option to select an English language version of the text.

10. We are aware of the risk posed by providing examples of such certificates. They could be used for even more scams. As a first step, such information should only be made available in prose. In a second phase, UNECE could provide a database along the line of the EU database.

Proposals

11. We propose to amend 8.2.2.8.6 as follows: (amended parts in **bold**)

"Contracting Parties shall provide the UNECE secretariat with an example of the national model in .pdf format for any certificate intended for issue in accordance with this section, along with examples of **all** models for certificates which are still valid. **All Contracting Parties shall additionally provide explanatory notes in writing allowing to check layout consistency and expiration date of ADR-driver training certificates.** The UNECE secretariat shall make available on the UNECE website the information received from all Contracting Parties."

12. We propose to add a Note at the end of 7.5.1.2:

"Concerning the layout consistency of ADR-driver training certificates, it is sufficient for the consignor or loader to visually check layout consistency against specimens available on the UNECE website at

http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/adr/adr_certificates.html."

13. We suggest to Contracting Parties to create an international database containing data (no pictures) of ADR-driver training certificates, freely available in internet to be consulted during the proposed checks and law enforcement controls.

¹ <https://keltra.vkti.gov.lt/kelappweb/web/adrKorteles.jsp>