

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

Bern, 18-22 March 2019

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Tanks

27 February 2019

Report of the tenth meeting of the informal working group on the inspection and certification of tanks

Transmitted by the Government of the United Kingdom

1. The informal working group on the inspection and certification of tanks met for the tenth time in Vienna from 24th-25th January 2019, under the chairmanship of Mr. Steve Gillingham (United Kingdom). Representatives of Austria (our host), Belgium, the European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russia, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA), the International Dangerous Goods and Containers Association (IDGCA), and the International Union of Wagon Keepers (UIP), participated.

2. The meeting opened with a warm welcome from Robert Wunderl and Othmar Krammer in the Austrian Federal Department, Transport and Traffic. The Chair thanked our host and the delegations present who had kindly rearranged their diaries to accommodate the meeting at short notice.

3. The Chair referred to the progress report submitted in December 2018 to the spring 2019 session of the Joint Meeting regarding the outcome of the ninth meeting, where it was agreed that a tenth meeting would be necessary to continue the work on the remainder of the proposals for 1.8.7 from 1.8.7.4 onwards and the related sections in Chapter 6.8 so that an informal document containing the full combined proposals for 1.8.6, 1.8.7 and the related sections in Chapter 6.8 could be considered at the spring 2019 session of the Joint Meeting with a view to amending the 2021 Editions of RID/ADR. This would be prefaced by a short informal document setting out the fundamental principles and the outline of the mandate upon which the group have based the proposals.

4. The Chair thanked the Netherlands and France for the work they had done in between the meetings to check and prepare the respective documents on 1.8.6, 1.8.7 and the related sections in Chapter 6.8 ahead of this meeting. Subject to the consent of the Joint Meeting, the Chair informed the group that the usual room had been secured for the UK to host a meeting on 12-14 June 2019 for the group to address any residual comments from the Joint Meeting.

Appointment, control and monitoring of inspection bodies

5. The group reviewed the text proposals for 1.8.6 on the administrative controls, for the conformity assessment, type approval and inspections set out in Chapters 6.2 and 6.8 lead by the Netherlands on behalf of the Prague sub-group. The proposals were improved where appropriate and were well-supported by the group, but it was noted that in 1.8.6.2.1 one delegation is not in favour of the provisions for national systems equivalent to accreditation

according to EN ISO/IEC 17020:2012 (except clause 8.1.3) independently verified by a Committee of experts established by the Joint Meeting.

6. It was also noted that in 1.8.6.2.1 the provisions for competent authorities that perform the tasks of inspection bodies, and in 1.8.6.2.3.3 and 1.8.6.2.3.4 the provisions for the monitoring of inspection bodies conducting activities outside the territory of the appointing RID Contracting State / Contracting Party to ADR, should be considered at the Joint Meeting.

7. The UIP representative mentioned that the first meeting of the newly created Rail Joint Coordinating Group of Experts (JCGE) will be held in February in Bern, and the representative from the European Commission mentioned that the ERA is also assessing the effects of Joint Meeting proposals on the 4th railway package, and will, no doubt, wish to comment on the proposals submitted by the informal working group.

Harmonisation of inspection procedures

8. The group reviewed the text proposals for 1.8.7 on the procedures undertaken for the conformity assessment, type approval and inspections set out in Chapters 6.2 and 6.8 lead by France. The proposals were improved where appropriate and were well-supported by the group, but it was noted that further consideration was needed as to whether and for how long the relevant documents need to be retained by the owner or operator when the product is taken out of service (paragraph 1.8.7.1.5), and by the competent authority or inspection body (last paragraph in 1.8.7.2.2.2).

9. A line by line review beginning at 1.8.7.4 was undertaken. This included section 1.8.7.5 on an entry into service verification if required by the competent authority of the country of registration [or manufacture] when the initial inspection certificate is issued by an inspection body that is not approved or recognised by the said competent authority, or when the registration is transferred from one country to another. In section 1.8.7.8 a list is given of the documents to be provided by the manufacturer for the type approval certificate issue.

10. A line by line review was undertaken of the text proposals for the related sections in Chapter 6.8 on the application of the procedures undertaken for the conformity assessment, type approval and inspections set out in the said Chapter. The proposals were improved where appropriate and were well-supported by the group, but in the new Note 3 at the beginning of the proposals it was noted that one delegation is not in favour of the requirement for the inspection body to be [recognised or] accredited according to type A in EN ISO/IEC 17020:2012 (except clause 8.1.3) for the purposes of intermediate and periodic inspections and certain exceptional checks.

Action requested of the Joint Meeting

11. The Joint Meeting is invited to exchange preliminary views on the full combined proposals for 1.8.6, 1.8.7 and the related sections in Chapter 6.8 in a following informal document and is requested to give its consent to finalise the work as outlined below.

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

12. Subject to the exchange of preliminary views, and the agreement of the Joint Meeting, the informal working group will meet again on 12th-14th June 2019, in London, when it will, *inter alia*:

- (a) Refine further the proposals in light of views expressed at the Spring 2019 session of the Joint Meeting, including consequential amendments foreseen for Chapter 6.2;

- (b) Agree an official working paper for the Autumn 2019 session of the Joint Meeting comprising a consolidated set of amendments for the 2021 Editions of RID/ADR; and
 - (c) Report on any technical work being undertaken by members of this group, aimed at improving the construction and inspection requirements for tanks.
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