



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, 17-27 September 2019

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Tanks**Report of the eleventh 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 an eleventh time in London from 12th to 14th June 2019, under the chairmanship of Mr. Steve Gillingham (United Kingdom). Representatives of Austria, Belgium, the European Commission, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the European Industrial Gases Association (EIGA) and the International Union of Wagon Keepers (UIP) participated in the meeting. Apologies were received from the representatives of the Czech Republic, Romania and Sweden.

2. The Chairman noted the outcome of the Joint Meeting in Bern in March 2019, where it was agreed, on the basis of the complete set of proposals in ECE-TRANS-WP15-AC1-19-BE-inf13r1e concerning sections 1.8.6, 1.8.7 and the related sections in Chapter 6.8 on the administrative controls and procedures for conformity assessments, type approval certification and inspections, that the informal working group would further consider the effects of the proposed wording and any additional comments so that the amendments could be finalised for consideration at the Autumn 2019 session of the Joint Meeting with a view to amending the 2021 Editions of RID/ADR.

3. The informal working group thanked the representatives from France, the chair of the working group on tanks and the UN Secretariat for their work on ECE-TRANS-WP15-AC1-19-BE-inf13r1e, and noted the documents from the Czech Republic, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and UIP which contained further comments on the proposals for 1.8.6, 1.8.7 and the related sections in Chapter 6.8. The group also thanked the representatives from Germany and EIGA for developing proposals for the related sections in Chapter 6.2.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2018-2019, (ECE/TRANS/2018/21/Add.1, Cluster 9, (9.2)).

** Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2019/40.

4. Subject to the consent of the Joint Meeting, the Chairman restated the offer of the United Kingdom to hold a further meeting of the group if this was needed to finalise the work and address any comments from the Autumn 2019 session of the Joint Meeting.

Appointment, control and monitoring of inspection bodies.

5. The group considered a discussion paper from the Netherlands on the proposals for 1.8.6.2.3.3, 1.8.6.2.3.4 and 1.8.6.2.5.3 concerning the work done by inspection bodies in other territories and the recognition of inspection bodies approved by the competent authorities of other contracting countries. The paper presented two proposals – a reciprocal arrangement similar to that introduced for inspection bodies approved under Directive 2010/35/EU on transportable pressure equipment, and an alternative in which a contracting country could recognise an inspection body approved by another contracting country. Following discussion it was agreed that in light of the concerns expressed it would be appropriate to adopt a step by step approach, beginning with the latter and in the fullness of time adopting the former. On this basis the [square brackets] around 1.8.6.2.5.3 were removed, 1.8.6.2.3.4 was deleted in deference to 1.8.2.2, and 1.8.6.2.3.3 was subsumed within 1.8.6.2.3.1.

6. The group then undertook a line by line review of the comments submitted on the proposals for Chapter 6.8. Working through the text some refinements were made during the course of the discussions. When discussing the entry into service verification in 6.8.1.5.5 there were concerns that tanks with an initial inspection certificate issued by an inspection body recognised by the competent authority of the country of manufacture could be disadvantaged. As an alternative a proposal was suggested similar to the first inspection required in Chapter 9.1 which would allow a contracting country to require an entry into service verification to verify conformity with Chapter 6.8. This was placed in [square brackets] for further consideration as more time was needed to develop a suitable proposal.

Harmonisation of assessment and inspection procedures

7. The group began a line by line review of 1.8.7. Concerns were expressed about the definition for “manufacturer” which, whilst making it clear as to who is responsible to the competent authority for the type approval process and the conformity of construction of a tank, was considered to be inconsistent with current practice, which separated the applicant from the manufacturer. The issue was set aside pending receipt of a proposal. Working further through the text some refinements were made following discussion of the comments received. Paragraph 1.8.7.1.5 was re-formatted to clarify the text. In 1.8.7.2.2.2 pressure receptacles, tanks, battery-vehicles / battery-wagons and MEGCs were grouped together as “products” to simplify the text. It was made clear that the results of previous type examination tests shall be taken into account when a type approval is renewed if these tests are still in accordance with the provisions of RID / ADR at the date of renewal.

8. Due to time constraints discussion had to be curtailed at the end of 1.8.7.4.3. The group therefore agreed to meet again on 10th and 11th July 2019 to finalise the texts so that an informal document containing the full proposals for 1.8.6, 1.8.7 and the related sections in Chapter 6.8 and 6.2 can be submitted, together with a further meeting report, to the Autumn 2019 session of the Joint Meeting for an exchange of views, which if necessary could be considered at a meeting of the group from 11th to 13th December 2019. In the absence of a suitable meeting room in London, Spain kindly offered to host the July meeting in Madrid.

Action requested of the Joint Meeting

9. The Joint Meeting is requested to give its consent to the work programme for the Group as outlined below.

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

10. Subject to the progress made in Madrid, and the agreement of the Joint Meeting, the informal working group may need to meet again from 11th to 13th December 2019 in London, where if that is necessary it will, *inter alia*:

- (a) Refine further the proposals in light of views expressed at the Autumn 2019 session of the Joint Meeting;

- (b) Agree an official working paper for the Spring 2020 session of the Joint Meeting comprising a final set of amendments for the 2021 Editions of RID/ADR; and
 - (c) Report on any related technical work being undertaken by members of this group, aimed at improving the construction and inspection requirements for tanks.
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