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World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling

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Item 4 (b) (ii) of the provisional agenda
1958 Agreement - Regulations
Regulation No. 48 (Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices) –
Proposal for amendments to the 06 series of amendments

Proposal for a Supplement to the 06 series of amendments of Regulation No. 48

Submitted by the expert from Germany*

The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from Germany in order to improve the safety of vulnerable road users. The modifications to the existing text of the Regulation are marked in bold for new and strikethrough for deleted characters.

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In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2012–2016 (ECE/TRANS/224, para. 94 and ECE/TRANS/2012/12, programme activity 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.

I. Proposal

Paragraph 6.5.7., amend to read:

"6.5.7. Electrical connections

Direction-indicator lamps shall switch on independently of the other lamps. All direction-indicator lamps on one side of a vehicle shall be switched on and off by means of one control and shall flash in phase.

On M_1 and N_1 vehicles less than 6 m in length, with an arrangement complying with paragraph 6.5.5.2. above, the amber side-marker lamps, when mounted, shall also flash at the same frequency (in phase) with the direction-indicator lamps.

The side marker lamps mounted on M_2 , M_3 , N_2 , N_3 , O_3 and O_4 vehicles shall flash simultaneously with the direction-indicator lamps."

Paragraph 6.18.7., amend to read:

"6.18.7. Electrical connections

On M_1 and N_1 category vehicles less than 6 m in length amber side-marker lamps may be wired to flash, provided that this flashing is in phase and at the same frequency with the direction-indicator lamps at the same side of the vehicle.

On M_2 , M_3 , N_2 , N_3 , O_3 and O_4 vehicles the side marker lamps shall flash simultaneously with the direction-indicator lamps at the same side of the vehicle.

For all other categories of vehicles: no individual specification."

II. Justification

- 1. This proposal introduces flashing side marker lamps for vehicles of categories M_2 , M_3 , N_2 , N_3 , O_3 and O_4 with the objective of improving the safety of vulnerable road users by informing them about the intended turn of buses and heavy goods vehicles and their trailers.
- 2. It is a simple measure that will improve the level of safety, especially for cyclists and pedestrians in the blind spot area of the above-mentioned vehicles.
- 3. The comments made by the European Association of Automotive Suppliers and the International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers have been considered. Since this is only an amendment to the 06 series of amendments to Regulation No. 48, there is enough time to cope with minor technical hurdles (e.g. a new design of flasher electronic control units (ECU)).

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