

Proposal for amendments to ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2013/66 concerning the proposal for Supplement 5 to the 02 series of amendments to Regulation No. 117 (Tyres, rolling resistance, rolling noise and wet grip)

I. Proposal

Paragraph 6.2.3., amend to read (incl. insertion of a new footnote):

"6.2.3. For Class C3 tyres, tested in accordance with either procedure given in Annex 5 (B) to this Regulation, the tyre shall meet the following requirements:

Category of use		Wet grip index (G)	
		Other	Traction tyres
Normal tyre		≥ 0.65*	≥ 0.65
Snow tyre		≥ 0.65	≥ 0.65
	Snow tyre for use in severe snow conditions	≥ 0.65	≥ 0.65
Special use tyre		≥ 0.65	≥ 0.65

* Wet grip index (G) ≥ 0.80 may be considered for new types of tyres 96 months after the entry into force date of Supplement 5 to the 02 series of amendments, based on robust field data and cost-effectiveness analysis."

II. Justification

1. The proposal is aimed to ensure the current level of safety (state-of-the-art) of commercial vehicle tyres in wet road conditions on public roads.
2. The levels of wet grip performance in the original proposal are considered to be in line with the market situation today and are based on the presumption that no safety-critical issues exist in terms of wet grip properties of currently available tyres. The wet grip index (G) is therefore introduced as a 'safety net'.
3. The originally proposed values reflect today's market situation and are compatible with the tyre labelling schemes employed by certain countries (Contracting Parties and non-Contracting Parties).
4. Wet grip performance may suffer in the future, for instance due to better rolling resistance properties, leading to reduced braking and cornering capabilities on wet roads.
5. A number of Contracting Parties have called for the introduction of higher wet grip indices than proposed and the majority of participants (i.e. stakeholders and Contracting Parties) agreed in the Ad Hoc meeting of 21 November 2013 in Paris (see informal document GRRF-76-12) to support an update of the proposal to include a 'revision clause' for normal C3 (non-traction) tyres.