

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

108th session

4 November 2020

Geneva, 10-13 November 2020

Item 6 of the provisional agenda:

Interpretation of ADR

Questions of interpretation: Application of the requirements concerning the electrical equipment of vehicles in accordance with 9.2.1.1 of ADR – transitional provisions

Transmitted by the Government of Germany

Background

This informal document was already submitted as informal document INF.16 at the 107th session (11-15 November 2019) (see ECE/TRANS/WP.15/248, § 78-79).

In reply to the question raised by Germany, several cases were discussed:

- (a) Standard vehicle registered earlier than the date shown in the “Comments” column of the table in 9.2.1.1 and converted during the same period for the purposes of ADR and deemed to comply with ADR;
- (b) Standard vehicle registered earlier than the date shown in the “Comments” column in 9.2.1.1 but converted to an ADR vehicle after new requirements have been introduced in ADR;
- (c) Vehicles that did not meet the requirements to be approved as ADR vehicles at the time of registration.

Opinions differed and it was agreed that this subject would be discussed again at the 108th session.

Introduction

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS	VEHICLES				COMMENTS
	EX/II	EX/III	AT	FL	
9.2.2 ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT					
9.2.2.1 General provisions	X	X	X	X	
9.2.2.2.1 Cables	X	X	X	X	
9.2.2.2.2 Additional protection	X ^a	X	X ^b	X	^a Applicable to vehicles with a maximum mass exceeding 3.5 tonnes first registered (or which entered into service if registration is not mandatory) after 31 March 2018. ^b Applicable for vehicles first registered (or which entered into service if registration is not mandatory) after 31 March 2018.
9.2.2.3 Fuses and circuit breakers	X ^b	X	X	X	^b Applicable to vehicles first registered (or which entered into service if registration is not mandatory) after 31 March 2018.
9.2.2.4 Batteries	X	X	X	X	
9.2.2.5 Lighting	X	X	X	X	
9.2.2.6 Electrical connections between motor vehicles and trailers	X ^c	X	X ^b	X	^b Applicable to vehicles first registered (or which entered into service if registration is not mandatory) after 31 March 2018. ^c Applicable to motor vehicles intended to draw trailers with a maximum mass exceeding 3.5 tonnes and trailers with a maximum mass exceeding 3.5 tonnes first registered (or which entered into service if registration is not mandatory) after 31 March 2018.

Summary

1. In the table for 9.2.1.1 of ADR, reference is made to vehicles such as EX/II, EX/III, FL and AT that, in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 9.2, have to comply with this table. For the electrical equipment, the column „comments“ in the table contains information in ^a and ^b on the applicability for vehicles.
2. The wording „registered“ and, additionally in some instances, „entered into service if registration is not mandatory“ are used for this purpose. Formally, this provision thus aims at the registration in accordance with road traffic law, as an entry into service in accordance with dangerous goods law instead of the registration in accordance with traffic law is not provided for in ADR.
3. However, the question arises of whether this was really the intention of the transitional requirements. In particular, the question arises of which requirements the electrical equipment of vehicles that were first registered before 31 March 2018 but are to be used as an EX/II, EX/III, FL or AT vehicle only at a later date and whose electrical equipment thus does not comply with the requirements of Part 9 of a previous version of ADR has to comply with. After 31 March 2020, the requirements of Part 9 in force up to 31 December 2018, too, will no longer be applicable (see 1.6.5.4).

Discussion

Issue to be discussed:

Question 1:

Does this provision in the table concerning the electrical equipment of vehicles first registered for road traffic in general after 31 March 2018 (first registration after manufacture, in accordance with road traffic law) refer to the registration within the meaning of road traffic law?

Question 2:

Does this provision in the table concerning the electrical equipment of vehicles also apply to vehicles first registered after 31 March 2018 as an ADR certified vehicle (EX/II, EX/III, AT, FL) with a certificate of approval in accordance with Part 9 of ADR?
