

Submitted by the expert from the European Commission

Informal document GRB-73-02
(73rd GRBP, 26-29 January 2021,
agenda item 5 (d))

**Proposal for amendments to the Terms of Reference
of the Informal Working Group on Wet Grip Performance
for Tyres in a Worn State (IWG WGWT)**

The proposed amendments to Terms of Reference of the IWG WGWT, submitted by the expert from the European Commission, are marked in bold, red font with yellow background for new or strike-through, red font with yellow background for deleted characters. This proposal is based on the document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRBP/2020/11.



Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations****Working Party on Noise and Tyres****Seventy-second session**

Geneva, 7–9 September 2020

Item 5 (e) of the provisional agenda

Tyres: UN Regulation No. 117 (Tyre rolling resistance, rolling noise and wet grip)**Proposal for revised Terms of Reference of the Informal Working Group on Wet Grip Performance for Tyres in a Worn State****Submitted by the experts from the Informal Working Group on Wet Grip Performance for Tyres in a Worn State***

The text reproduced below was prepared by the experts from the Informal Working Group on Wet Grip Performance for Tyres in a Worn State (IWG WGWT) in order to update its Terms of the Reference taking into account the already approved IWG WGWT proposals, work progress and the impact of the COVID pandemic. It is based upon Annex IV to the report of the Working Party on Noise on its seventieth session (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRBP/68). The modifications are marked in bold for new or strikethrough for deleted characters.

* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2020 as outlined in proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (part V sect. 20) para 20.37), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update UN Regulations in order to enhance the performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.

I. Proposal

A. Introduction

1. At the sixty-ninth session of the Working Party on Noise (GRB), it was pointed out that the wet grip performance of tyres decreases with tyre wear, so the current testing (performed on new tyres) does not represent the worst-case situation. The process of adapting the requirements on tyres should continue, in particular to ensure that tyre performance is also assessed, if relevant, at the end of a tyre's life (in worn state) and to promote the idea that tyres should meet the requirements throughout their life and not be replaced prematurely. UN Regulation No. 117 now contains detailed provisions on noise, rolling resistance and wet grip performance of tyres that can be amended to take into account some other prescriptions.
2. ~~It is proposed to create, starting in 2019,~~ An informal working group **was created in 2019** to define prescriptions for wet grip performance of tyres in worn state (IWG WGWT).
3. This proposal establishes the **updated** Terms of Reference for the IWG WGWT.
4. The aim of the group is to propose an amendment to UN Regulation No. 117 under the 1958 Agreement.

B. Objectives

5. The scope and purpose are based on ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRB/2019/6, **and informal document GRB-69-23 submitted by France and ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRBP/7068, para. 186 and Annex IV.**

6. The future amendment to UN Regulation No. 117 will apply to new pneumatic tyres of class C1 **and will address also the suitable requirements to those of classes C2 and C3.**

Justification: wet grip performance of C2 and C3 tyres in worn state is also important for vehicles safety. It is also of relevance to the Regulation (EU) 2019/2144 (General Safety Regulation), which includes in its requirements the wet grip of such tyres at worn state with reference to UNECE Regulation No 117. IWG WGWT was informed on this proposal at its 16th session of 19/11/2020.

7. IWG WGWT shall:
 - Consider the scope and elaborate the target;
 - Evaluate the method for preparing a tyre to be tested in worn state at its type-approval;
 - Define the test conditions;
 - Describe the test methods;
 - Define the type-approval thresholds of tyre wet grip performance in worn state.
8. IWG WGWT shall work in the framework of the 1958 Agreement and shall report to GRBP.

C. Rules of Procedure

9. IWG WGWT shall be open to all participants of the Working Party on Noise and Tyres (GRBP).
10. IWG shall be co-chaired by France and the European Commission. The European Tyre and Rim Technical Organisation (ETRTO) shall act as Secretary.
11. The working language will be English.

12. All documents and/or proposals must be submitted to the Secretary of IWG in a suitable electronic format at least one week before a scheduled meeting.

13. An agenda and the latest draft document will be circulated to all members of IWG in advance of all scheduled meetings.

14. All IWG documentation will be made available on the dedicated ECE website.

D. Timeline

15. IWG shall aim to present a working document **on wet grip of tyres of class C1 in worn state** for adoption at ~~seventy third session of GRBP in January 2021~~. IWG shall present a progress report, including already achieved results, at the ~~seventy first session of GRB in January 2020~~ and a comprehensive proposal at the ~~seventy second session of GRB in September 2020~~ **the seventy-fourth session of GRBP in September 2021 and on wet grip of tyres of classes C2 and C3 in worn state by the seventy-sixth session of GRBP in September 2022 at the latest**. IWG presented a progress report at the ~~seventy-first session of GRBP in January 2020~~ and shall present a progress report at the ~~seventy-second session of GRBP in September 2020~~ and a comprehensive proposal at the ~~seventy-third session of GRBP in January 2021~~, all including already achieved results.

Justification: the IWG aim to present a working document to the 74th GRBP (September 2021) remains for the work scope on C1 class tyres. A working document on C2 and C3 class tyres may be submitted at the same GRBP or by the 76th GRBP (September 2022) at the latest. These documents will thus include the provisions on wet grip of tyres in worn state, which are in relevance to both UNECE Regulation No 117 and to the Regulation (EU) 2019/2144.

~~16. The first IWG meeting is planned to be held in April 2019. The exact date and location are to be determined.~~

II. Justification

Due to the COVID-19 circumstances, the activities of the group and its members, especially the buffing and testing workplan, were delayed. Consequently, the testing data needed for the wet grip performance on worn tyres would not be available within the initial timeline. This proposal aims to have a working document adopted at the seventy-fourth session of GRBP in September 2021, instead of seventy-third session of GRBP in January 2021, as originally intended.
