

Proposal for amendments to UN Regulation No. 79 (Steering Equipment)

Proposed amendments are indicated in bold for new characters, and strikethrough for deleted characters.

I. Proposal

Paragraph 5.6.4.2.3., amend to read:

“5.6.4.2.3. The system shall only be activated (standby mode) after a deliberate action by the driver. Activation by the driver shall only be possible on roads where pedestrians and cyclists are prohibited and which, by design, are equipped with a physical separation that divides the traffic moving in opposite directions and which have at least two lanes in the direction the vehicles are driving. These conditions shall be ensured by the use of at least two independent means.

Notwithstanding the activation criteria above and following the activation request at any type of road by a deliberate action with the same means as for ACSF of Category B1, the ACSF of Category C may turn automatically to standby mode when entering a type of road as described above.

In the case of a transition from a road type with a classification permitting an ACSF of Category C, to a type of road where an ACSF of Category C is not permitted, the system shall be deactivated automatically (off mode), unless a missing second lane in driving direction is the only condition not fulfilled from the above (e.g. a connector between two highways).”

II. Justification

1. When the same means is used by the driver to simultaneously activate ACSF-B1 and ACSF-C, both functions switch to standby mode when the vehicle enters an ACSF-C eligible road. But if the road is non-eligible to ACSF-C, then only the ACSF-B1 is activated.
2. With the current text of the regulation, once the vehicle moves to an ACSF-C eligible road, the driver must operate again the means to activate the ACSF-C. This second deliberate action is confusing for the driver; it makes the manipulation more complex. The current wording actually discourages most drivers from using this assistance function.
3. The proposed wording permits the following, logical, cascade of actions: (1) the driver has done a deliberate action to activate ACSF-B1 and ACSF-C (on a non-eligible road), then (2) he drives into an eligible road, and is clearly informed thereof. Then (3) he initiates a lane change procedure by activating e.g. the direction indicator.