

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

114th session

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda

Interpretation of ADR

7 November 2023

Clarification regarding the certificate of approval for vehicles carrying certain dangerous goods

Transmitted by the Government of Malta

Introduction

1. Malta is seeking clarification regarding the issue of the certificate of approval for vehicles carrying certain dangerous goods.
 2. Due to our limited market, usually, Maltese operators buy second hand vehicles from other countries, with a valid certificate and with valid inspection certificates.
 3. We are seeking clarification whether we, as the competent authority in Malta, are required to issue a new certificate of approval to such vehicles upon change of ownership to replace the already valid certificate issued by another party. The question arises as the certificate includes the address of the owner and the Vehicle Registration Number, both of which change upon change of ownership and registration in Malta. Are these details required to match those shown on the vehicle's registration certificate and, if they don't, are the respective owners subject to penalties?
 4. As per 9.1.3.2 of the ADR, "the certificate of approval issued by the competent authority of one Contracting Party for a vehicle registered in the territory of the Contracting Party shall be accepted, so long as its validity continues, by the competent authorities of the other Contracting Parties". Does a change of ownership and/or change of registration number constitute an invalidation of the certificate to justify the non-recognition of the certificate and the need for it to be replaced?
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