



Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods****Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods**

Geneva, 9-13 September 2024

Item 6 of the provisional agenda

Reports of Informal Working Groups**Report on the seventh meeting of the informal working group
on e-learning****Transmitted by the Government of Germany and the International
Road Transport Union (IRU)*, ******Introduction**

1. Based on the mandate given by the Joint Meeting during its Autumn 2023 session (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/170, paragraph 58) a seventh meeting of the informal working group (IWG) on e-learning was held virtually on 29 April 2024. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Ivan Schmelczler, representative of IRU, and with Ms. Gudula Schwan, representative of Germany, acting as a Vice-Chair.
2. The following Contracting Parties to ADR and/or ADN, participated in the meeting: Germany, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. The following associations were represented: European Barge Union (EBU), European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic), European Skippers Organisation (ESO), International Road Transport Union (IRU). The total number of participants was 13.
3. Based on the draft text developed for ADR (see informal document INF.29/Rev. 1 of the Spring 2024 session) the IWG developed draft text of amendments to the ADN.

I. Seventh meeting (29 April 2024)

4. The provisional agenda for the seventh meeting was the following:
 - Discussing the required amendments to the ADN for introducing e-learning
 - Creating a final proposal for the next Joint Meeting

* A/78/6 (Sect.20), table 20.5.

** Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2024/38.

5. Two new definitions (Remote training, E-learning) are proposed to be inserted after the heading of Chapter 8.2.
6. 'Training by correspondence' is an existing option in the ADN. The necessity of this type of training was debated. The ADN Safety Committee should be consulted to determine its necessity. In the case it remains in the ADN, it can be added to the definitions in paragraph 5 above. In the case it will be removed from ADN, the third and fourth sentence of 8.2.2.4 of ADN should be deleted.
7. The first sentence of 8.2.2.3 of ADN is confusing in the English version. This sentence is about initial and refresher courses for basic and specialization courses as well. Therefore, the IWG proposes to make an editorial correction to delete the second word ('basic') of this sentence.
8. The remote training and e-learning options are proposed to be inserted to the end of the first paragraph of 8.2.2.3, before 8.2.2.3.1.
9. Like in the proposal for ADR, the practical exercises shall be delivered as training in person only.
10. Contrary to ADR, based on the decision of the ADN Safety Committee, the theoretical part of the refresher training can be delivered entirely as e-learning.
11. The IWG proposes to insert a sentence before the second sentence of 8.2.2.4, so that training lessons may be divided into shorter sessions. Therefore, a 45-minutes-long lesson can be divided in shorter parts. It is helpful and important in e-learning delivery method.
12. The IWG discussed the importance of qualifications for trainers and the responsibility of training providers in creating and evaluating e-learning materials. For practical exercises, qualified trainers also required. Therefore, amending 8.2.2.6.3 (b) is not required.
13. A consequential amendment is required in 8.2.2.6.5 (b), whereas the competent authority shall be granted the right to access training courses and examinations.

II. Further action

14. The draft amendments for the ADN should be further reviewed by the ADN Safety Committee. The draft amendments to the ADR as presented in informal document INF.29/Rev.1 of the Spring 2024 session of the Joint Meeting will be the subject of an official proposal at the next session of the WP.15.

Annex

E-Learning in ADN refresher training programme

Insert definitions in 8.2 of ADN:

After the heading insert a note to read as follows:

“Note: For the purpose of this chapter:

- “e-learning” means asynchronous teaching conducted with information and communication technology (ICT) tools where trainees and trainers are separated in both space and time;

[- “training by correspondence” means asynchronous teaching conducted without information and communication technology (ICT) tools where trainees and trainers are separated in both space and time, and]

- “remote training” means synchronous teaching conducted with information and communication technology (ICT) tools where trainees and trainers communicate simultaneously at the same time and are separated in space.”

8.2.2.3 Organisation of training

For the English Version only: In the first sentence, replace “Initial basic training” with “Initial training”.

At the end of 8.2.2.3, before 8.2.2.3.1; add the following sentences:

“An initial training course may be delivered as in person training, remote training, [training by correspondence] or a combination of these. A refresher training course may be delivered as in person training, remote training, e-learning, or a combination of these. Practical exercises shall be delivered as training in person only.”

Consequential amendments:

8.2.2.4 Planning of basic and specialization courses

[If it is decided that provisions on training by correspondence are not any longer needed the third and the fourth sentence “If the theoretical training is by correspondence the theoretical training is delivered as e-learning, equivalences to the above-mentioned lessons shall be determined. Training by correspondence shall be completed within a period of (nine) months.” have to be deleted.]

Replace the sentence “Each day of training may comprise not more than eight lessons.” with the following: “The training lessons may be divided into shorter sessions. Each day of training shall comprise not more than eight lessons.”

8.2.2.5 Planning of refresher course

Replace the sentence “Each day of training may comprise not more than eight lessons.” with the following: “The training lessons may be divided into shorter sessions. Each day of training shall comprise not more than eight lessons. If the theoretical training is delivered as e-learning, equivalences to the above-mentioned lessons shall be determined. [Training delivered by e-learning shall be completed within a period of [nine] months.]”

8.2.2.6 Approval of training courses

8.2.2.6.5 Amend (b) to read as follows:

“(b) the competent authority shall be granted the right to access training courses and examinations;”