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Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs

Eighty-first session

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Item 5 (a) of the provisional agenda

Proposals for amendments to ATP:

Pending proposals

Proposed amendment to annex 1, appendix 2, paragraph 7.3.7

Transmitted by the Government of France

Summary

Executive summary:	Proposal to supplement annex 1, appendix 2, paragraph 7.3.7, with acceptance criteria for the coating of dividing walls
Action to be taken:	Amend annex 1, appendix 2, paragraph 7.3.7
Related documents:	None

Introduction

1. The means of transport used for perishable foodstuffs should not, as a result of its layout, state of repair or loading, constitute a risk of contamination, deterioration or soiling of the foodstuffs.

2. Regulation (CE) No. 852/2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs contains relevant provisions that apply to these means of transport:

(a) Chapter IV of annex II of Regulation (CE) No. 852/2004 states that “Conveyances and/or containers used for transporting foodstuffs are to be kept clean and maintained in good repair and condition to protect foodstuffs from contamination and are, where necessary, to be designed and constructed to permit adequate cleaning and/or disinfection.”;

(b) Chapter V of annex II of Regulation (CE) No. 852/2004 states that “All articles, fittings and equipment with which food comes into contact are to [...] be so constructed, be of such materials and be kept in such good order, repair and condition as to minimise any risk of contamination”.



3. The materials used in the design of dividing walls are likely to come into contact with the foodstuffs transported. These materials must not cause spoilage of the foodstuffs or impart harmful properties. However, dividing walls whose outer coating is not bonded to the central insulating panel of the dividing walls present a design-related risk of accumulation of dirt between the outer coating and the central insulation. That risk may be exacerbated by the fact that these partitions can be stored outside the equipment, exposing them to all kinds of dirt.



4. Annex 1, appendix 2, paragraph 7.3.7, refers to thermal losses through dividing walls with only two types mentioned: “longitudinal” and “transversal”. As a result, the existing terms do not provide a sufficiently clear definition of a dividing wall and thus do not make it possible to rule out technological solutions that would not meet the objective of certification or to prevent differences in interpretation that could lead to multi-temperature equipment receiving certification in one country and but being rejected as multi-temperature equipment in another.

5. The purpose of this proposal is to amend the proposals on dividing walls by introducing, in annex 1, appendix 2, paragraph 7.3.7:

- Composition of dividing walls

Proposal

6. Add at the end of 7.3.7. Composition of dividing walls:

“The panel constituting the dividing wall is composed of a minimum insulated thickness as defined in the table in annex 1, appendix 2, paragraph 7.3.7 and an external coating attached at all points to the insulation.”

Impact

Cost:	No impact.
Environment:	Improved hygiene conditions within equipment by avoiding external storage of removable dividing walls.
Feasibility:	The proposal may have implications for equipment manufacturers and competent authorities, notably in respect of certification methods for multi-temperature equipment.
Enforceability:	A two-year transition period before this proposal comes into force is proposed.
