
Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs****Eighty-first session**

Geneva, 29 October – 1 November 2024

Item 12 of the provisional agenda

Other business

24 October 2024

English

Proposed terms of reference for an informal working group (IWG) on the effectiveness of multi-temperature thermal appliances in service**Transmitted by the Government of Denmark on behalf of the IWG***Background (informal document INF 19 of the eightieth session)*

1. Proposal for the terms of reference for an informal working group to be created under the supervision of WP.11 at its eightieth session in October 2023 on the procedure for checking the effectiveness of multi temperature thermal appliances of multi compartment equipment.
2. The informal working group shall evaluate and develop appropriate provisions for the existing provisions in paragraph 6.2.1 (iii) of Annex 1, Appendix 2 in particular concerning:
 - Feasibility to perform the test.
 - Differences for independent and non-independent equipment.
 - Take into account the appropriate rigor of the test.
 - Efficiency in the performance of the test in time and costs.
 - Limit the impact on the environment as far as possible.
3. The informal working group shall take into account the developments and work of the IIF/IIR D2 subcommssion D2 "CERTE".
4. The informal working group shall deliver, by the eighty-first session of WP.11 in October 2024, revisions and proposals for relevant amendments to paragraph 6.2.1. (iii).

Progress

5. Cemafrroid hosted the IWG on 6–7 March 2024 and demonstrated their test procedure and test facilities for MT-equipment. At the meeting, it was also agreed that the test procedure should be translated into English and forwarded to the working group.
6. At the meeting, the IWG had the opportunity to informally discuss various topics within the ATP treaty. There was great interest in the opportunity to informally discuss relevant topics before they are possibly forwarded as proposals for WP.11. The IWG found that the proposal to have a permanent meeting in May for informal discussions should be forwarded to WP.11.
7. Cemafrroid offered to host such a meeting and pre-booked a date for next year: 14–15 May 2025. Denmark has offered to organize the meeting.
8. A meeting has been held in the IIR D2 working group on 16–17 April 2024. Testing of MT equipment was also discussed at this meeting, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland presented a discussion paper on an alternative procedure for in-service inspections for MT equipment. The paper was briefly discussed in IIR D2, and it was agreed that this should be distributed to the IWG for discussions.
9. Based on the discussion paper, the United Kingdom has forwarded the working paper ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2024/17 for the upcoming meeting of WP 11 in October 2024.
10. The IWG met on 2. October 2024 to discuss the French test procedures and the proposal from the United Kingdom.

Status

11. There are significant differences between the French methodology and the proposal from the United Kingdom.
12. The French methodology is based on experience over the years and many tests.
13. The methodology takes a longer time and has significant requirements for room temperature tolerance during the test.
14. The requirements for the room temperature will make it difficult to carry out the test in a garage environment, which is often used when pulldown tests are carried out. In terms of time, the French methodology takes 2 days.
15. The United Kingdom proposal is partly based on empery.
16. It can be carried out in one day. It does not consider equalizing the energy in the trailer for 6 to 12 hours, as the French methodology do, before the test procedure is started, but instead it refers to Annex 1, Appendix 2 part 6.2.1 (i) of the existing text. This requires that "the inside temperature of the empty equipment must have been previously brought to the outside temperature."
17. It needs further clarification, among other things, in terms of the type of equipment covered.
18. Several of the group's members emphasized that it is crucial that only one method for testing a given construction/trailer is valid, as otherwise competition would arise to use the easiest/cheapest methodology. This could lead to the deterioration of food safety and tests of multicompartement equipment, not being carried out in the same way in different countries.

Further work in the IWG

19. More work must be performed in the IWG. There are differences in the two methods that the working group must try to deal with. Some of the subjects are:

- Is it necessary to equalize the trailer; that is 6 to 12 hours.
- The demand of ensuring a temperature of $\pm 3^{\circ}$ C in the trailer before the testing can be performed.
- Definition of the position of the partition's walls to find the "the worst case."
- Ensuring a room temperature at $\pm 5^{\circ}$ C during the test

Recommendations to WP 11

- To have a mandate to continue the work in the IWG
 - To develop one test procedure for a given type of construction/trailer
 - To have an informal meeting held every year, if possible, in May for the countries that wish to discuss relevant topics within the ATP treaty.
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