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Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
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agenda item 5)

NEW PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO RID/ADR/ADN

Implementation of the special provisions of 6.8.4

Transmitted by the Government of France*

SUMMARY

Executive summary:

The purpose of this document is to clarify the implementation of the special provisions contained in Column (13) of Table A of Chapter 3.2 of RID/ADR.

Action to be taken:

Amend 3.2.1 and 6.8.4.

* Circulated by the Central Office for International Carriage by Rail (OCTI) under the symbol OCTI/RID/GT-III/2004/24.

Introduction

Column (13) of Table A of Chapter 3.2 of RID/ADR contains the special provisions of 6.8.4 which together with the tank code define the technical characteristics of tanks.

Difficulties of interpretation as regards the implementation of these special provisions have emerged for the carriage of certain substances in tanks.

The requirements of certain special provisions are not mandatory and as a result the alphanumeric codes of these provisions do not appear in the documents for the tanks in question. For example, special provision TE5 appears in the case of a tank equipped with thermal insulation made of materials which are not readily flammable. If the tank is not insulated, this provision is not included; this should not prevent the loading of substances for which this provision appears in Column (13) of Table A.

The wording of the explanatory note for Column (13) of 3.2.1 and the introductory text to 6.8.4 may lead it to be supposed that all the special provisions appearing in Column (13) for a given substance should be included even when they are not relevant.

In addition, the transitional measures of Chapter 1.6 do not appear in Table A and this may cause confusion during loading operations and inspections. This concerns, for example, 1.6.3.20 and special provision TE15, applicable only as from 1 January 2003.

We therefore propose the following amendment of these texts.

Proposal

In 3.2.1, Column (13), amend the text to read:

“Contains the alphanumeric codes of the special provisions for RID/ADR tanks that have additionally to be met, *provided they are relevant and subject to the transitional measures of 1.6.*”

In 6.8.4, “Special provisions”, after NOTES 1 and 2, amend the text to read:

“When they are shown under an entry in Column (13) of Table A of Chapter 3.2, the following special provisions apply *provided they are relevant and subject to the transitional measures of 1.6.*”

Justification

Safety: No problem.

Feasibility: No problem

Enforceability: This amendment is necessary in order to avoid problems of interpretation.
