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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling

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Item 4(c) of the provisional agenda

REGULATION No. 48
(Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices)

Clarifications on installation requirements

Proposal for Corrigendum 2 to Revision 5 to Regulation No. 48

Submitted by the expert from Canada */

The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from Canada in order to enhance the safety of vehicles by extending the requirement for side retro reflective devices to all vehicles subject to Regulation No. 48 regardless of their length. The modifications to the text of the Regulation, including draft Supplement 4 to the 04 series of amendments (ECE/TRANS/WP.29/2009/91), are marked in bold or strikethrough characters.

*/ In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2006-2010 (ECE/TRANS/166/Add.1, programme activity 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.

A. PROPOSAL

Paragraph 17.1., amend to read:

"6.17.1. Presence

Mandatory: ~~On all motor vehicles the length of which exceeds 6 m.
On all trailers.~~

Optional: ~~On motor vehicles the length of which does not exceed 6 m~~
equipped with conspicuity marking per paragraph 6.21."

Paragraph 6.17.4.3., amend to read:

"6.17.4.3. In length:

6.17.4.3.1. All vehicles:

The foremost side retro-reflector shall be fitted as far forward as practicable ahead of the transverse vertical plane passing through the centre of the foremost axle.

The rearmost side retro-reflector shall be fitted as far rearward as practicable behind the transverse vertical plane passing through the centre of the rearmost axle. The distance between the rearmost side retro-reflector and the rear of the vehicle shall not exceed 1 m.

**6.17.4.3.2. Vehicles the length of which exceeds 6 m except category M1 and N1:
In addition to side retro-reflectors required in paragraph 6.17.4.3.1.**

~~At least one side retro-reflector must be fitted to the middle third of the vehicle; the foremost side retro-reflector being not further than 3 m from the front; in the case of trailers, account shall be taken of the length of the drawbar for the measurement of this distance.~~

~~The distance between two adjacent side retro-reflectors shall not exceed 3 m. This does not, however, apply to M₁ and N₁ category vehicles or vehicles length of which does not exceed 6 m.~~

~~If the structure of the vehicle makes it impossible to comply with such a requirement, this distance may be increased to 4 m. The distance between the rearmost side retro-reflector and the rear of the vehicle shall not exceed 1 m. However, for motor vehicles the length of which does not exceed 6 m, it is sufficient to have one side retro-reflector fitted within the first third and/or one within the last third of the vehicle length. For M₁ vehicles the length of which exceeds 6 m but does not exceed 7 m it is sufficient to have one side retro-~~

~~reflector fitted not further than 3 m from the front and one within the last third of the vehicle length."~~

B. JUSTIFICATION

At night or under other dark ambient light conditions, when a vehicle has its lights OFF and is parked on the road in the spaced angled or perpendicular to the direction of traffic flow or is disabled after collision and blocks the traffic lane(s), it is imperative that it is marked to prevent other vehicle colliding with it and causing fatalities, injuries and/or damage to vehicles.

The proposed amendment should not create a major technological problem as present day retro reflecting devices come in all shapes and forms and do not require complex mounting fixtures.

Larger vehicles equipped with conspicuity marking could be exempted from mandatory retro reflector installation since the reflective line marking of the side of the vehicle could be sufficient to identify the presence and dimensions of the parked or otherwise immobile vehicle.
