

Informal Document No. GRSP-46-26
(46th session, 8 - 11 December 2009,
agenda items 6 and 14)

46th GRSP Session Status report of Informal Group on FI

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Chairman

Mandate - GRSP and WP29 decisions

- **December 2007 - GRSP Report - ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/42 §47.**
 - France suggested the establishment of a new informal group.
 - GRSP welcome the initiative of France to set up a new informal group on child restraint systems.
 - GRSP agreed to seek mandate from WP29.
 - GRSP agreed to defer the full consideration of ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/2007/17 to the informal group.
- **March 2008 - WP29 Report - ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1066 §20.**
 - WP.29 gave its consent to set up the new informal group to amend Regulation N°94 (Frontal impact) by changing the type of deformable barrier element and revising testing procedure.
- **May 2008 - GRSP Report - ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/43 §43.**
 - The draft terms of reference were agreed by the informal working group at its first meeting.
 - GRSP adopted the terms of reference, as reproduced in Annex VII to this report.
 - The expert from the United States of America stated the intention of her country to continue to collaborate with France sharing real-world data and outcome research.
 - The next meeting would be held the 6th October 2008
 - A draft proposal of amendment to the Regulation should be finalized by 2010.

Terms of Reference - Approved ToR

1. The informal group shall consider the updating of the current R94 regulation for adapting it with the new context and new vehicle generation and include regulatory impact assessment.
 - Proper justification for all proposed changes (speed, offset, PDB, etc.) shall be provided and assessed by the informal group.
 - In addition a cost benefit study shall be made.
2. The group shall focus on self-protection but take into account research worldwide on compatibility in order not to go against future compatibility requirements.
3. The informal group will take into consideration amongst others the technical expertise of EEVC WG16 and EEVC WG15, as well as the results of the discussions held in the informal group and at GRSP.
4. The discussion will be based on the formal documents n° ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRSP/2007/17 presented to GRSP in December 2007.
5. If necessary, the informal group could propose complementary test methods.
6. The target completion date for the informal group shall be the forty-seven session of GRSP (May 2010).

Meetings

1. 19th May 2008 – UNECE – GENEVA
2. 6th October 2008 – OICA – PARIS
3. 9th December 2008 – UNECE – GENEVA
4. 10th March – OICA – PARIS
5. 25th May 2009 – UNECE – GENEVA
6. 15th September 2009 – OICA – PARIS
7. 07th December 2009 – UNECE – GENEVA

Conclusion

- The group agrees that we reached today a good level of self protection in single car accident (same level for light cars and heavy cars).
- The group agrees, based on accident analysis, that we made low progress in safety in car to car accidents (more risks for light cars occupants).
- The group agrees that it is necessary to work on and to improve the Frontal Impact Regulation in the short term (2 to 3 years).
- There are some concerns inside the group concerning the real benefit if we change only the offset barrier without implementing requirements for restraint systems (mainly for small occupants and older occupants).
- The group agrees that implementing a full width test could be beneficial to address occupants loading for a better evaluation of restraint systems.
- The group needs some more time and discussions before a possible common position.
- Extending the scope of current ECE R94 (without modification) to heavier vehicles above 2.5 tons may be contra productive for road safety.
- Discussion on plans for future progress has to take place.
- Status and Schedule of the Group have to be adjusted.

Present status

The seven issues with Priority 1 are in ongoing discussion

1. **Accident analysis**
 - EC frontal impact accident analysis study ongoing
2. **Critical injury mechanisms**
 - Vulnerable occupants, thorax ?
3. **Potential for harmonisation**
 - Offset + Full Width
4. **Test severity for regulation test**
 - Threshold value to be defined
5. **PDB EES calculation method**
 - Share experience on calculation of energy absorbed in barrier
6. **Minimum EES test severity**
 - MPDB, MRB, ...
7. **Requirements for interior restraints**
 - Full Width test, other dummies, ...

Proposal to GRSP

- **Two next meetings of FI Group to draft a schedule of the Informal Group on Frontal Impact aligned with the schedule of activities going on, to look at, and answer open items?**
 - 4th March 2010
 - 27th April 2010
- **Adjust FI Group ToRs and planning for presentation at the May session of GRSP**

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