

Informal document No. **GRE-68-20** (68th GRE, 15-18 October 2012, agenda item 4(c)(i))

Comments on GRE/2012/27(Lighting & Signalling WG)

Headlamp Initial Aiming

October 2012

GRE/2012/27 proposes changes to ECE R48 to improve the minimum range of visibility, and to replace the artificial 2000lm limit for automatic levelling with more appropriate glare control.

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- To delete the reference to 2000lm as a threshold for automatic levelling.
- To add a visible warning to the driver, defining what is the minimum visibility distance, if theoretical range is less than 50m.

Proposed Initial nominal aim to correspond to 75m theoretical range



• Specified % inclination is (Headlamp height / 75) as a %, rounded to nearest 0.1%.

Proposed Initial nominal aim to correspond to 75m theoretical range

• Currently: initial aim is specified by the manufacturer, within permitted limits dependent on lamp height. Height bands overlap for tolerance.

min height	max height	%down	
500	1000	1.0% to 1.5%	
800	1200	1.5% to 2.0%	

Proposed Initial nominal aim to correspond to 75m theoretical range

- Under proposal,
 - No overlap between height bands
 - Most headlamps would be aimed higher than at present
 - Risks increased glare.

min height	max height	%down	
488	563	0.7%	
563	638	0.8%	
638	713	0.9%	
713	788	1.0%	
788	863	1.1%	
863	938	1.2%	
938	1013	1.3%	
1013	1088	1.4%	
1088	1163	1.5%	
1163	1238	1.6%	

<sports car

< normal family car

< van/SUV

Theoretical Range vs real visibility

- Is Theoretical Range a good measure of real visibility range?:
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- CIE TC4-45 generated a way to measure visibility range: it is significantly more complicated than simply the cut-off intersection, but correlates well with human perception.
- The following examples are taken from the CIE TC4-45 report
 - Two similar R98 headlamps, with similar mounting heights (715mm, 717mm)
 - Both are aimed at 1.0% down. This is the same value of aim that would apply under the proposal for these headlamp heights.
 - Ranges are calculated according to TC4-45 method.









Theoretical Range vs. real visibility

- Both lamps have a theoretical range of 75m
 - Sample 11 has TC4-45 visibility range of 60m
 - Sample 5 has TC4-45 visibility range of 85m

Theoretical Range vs. real visibility

- Both lamps have a theoretical range of 75m
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 - Sample 5 has TC4-45 visibility range of 85m
- Conclusion: theoretical range is a poor measure of real-world visibility

Tolerance with load levelling to be 50m to 100m theoretical range (6.2.6.1.2) for both approval and CoP

- Currently total load levelling tolerance is 2.0% approval, 2.6% CoP
- Manufacturer may define initial aim to optimise levelling results

Current Approval				
min height max height		%down		
500	1000	0.5% to 2.5%		
800	1200	1.0% to3.0%		

Current CoP				
min height max height		%down		
500	1000	0.2% to 2.8%		
800	1200	0.7% to3.3%		

Tolerance with load levelling to be 50m to 100m theoretical range (6.2.6.1.2) for both approval and CoP

- Proposal is shown expressed as %.
 - Initial aim is defined by regulation
 - Highest permitted aim with levelling unchanged at -0.5%
 - Corresponds to a reduction in load levelling tolerance for most cars of 60-75%

Proposal						
	min angle	set	max angle			
H(mm)	100 m	"75m"	50m	total tol		
500	-0.5%	-0.7%	-1.0%	0.5%		
550	-0.6%	-0.7%	-1.1%	0.6%		
600	-0.6%	-0.8%	-1.2%	0.6%		
650	-0.7%	-0.9%	-1.3%	0.7%		
700	-0.7%	-0.9%	-1.4%	0.7%		
800	-0.8%	-1.1%	-1.6%	0.8%		
900	-0.9%	-1.2%	-1.8%	0.9%		
1000	-1.0%	-1.3%	-2.0%	1.0%		
1200	-1.2%	-1.6%	-2.4%	1.2%		

Tolerance with load levelling



 To consistently meet CoP requirements, initial aim and levelling system need to be repeatable with a standard deviation of better than 0.1%.
Repeatability of suspension system alone is not this good.

6.2.6.1.3 requires that if, under loading conditions of Annex 5, aim falls above the 100m range, glare must be measured

- This is assessing the glare with the headlamp aimed as it would be under Annex 5 load conditions. Measurement to take place during headlamp type approval.
 - But at time of headlamp Type Approval, R48 inspection has not taken place, so the aim of the headlamp under Annex 5 conditions is not known.

Deletion of 2000lm requirement

- Current regulation para 6.2.9 prohibits the use of para 6.2.2.2 manual levelling option with LED or >2000lm light sources
- Proposal deletes this prohibition
 - Provided that 50-100m theoretical range can be achieved by manual levelling, manual levelling would be permissible for any headlamp.
- GTB working group is currently reviewing visibility and glare: it would be better to await their outcome.

Warning message

- If theoretical range under Annex 5 loading conditions falls below 50m but above 25m, a warning notice is to be placed in the car, declaring the minimum theoretical range as a minimum "visibility distance"
 - Visibility distance does not correlate directly with theoretical range (see above).

GRE/2012/21 proposed changes to ECE R48 (1 of 3):

To redefine the initial aim and static load-levelling requirements of dip beam headlamps in terms of theoretical range on the road rather than the current % downward inclination.

Conclusion:

- Redefining the aim point will raise the aim for most passenger cars This may not give the desired visibility range
- To prevent this causing increased glare, aiming and levelling tolerances must be tightened
 - Industry needs aiming and levelling capability data to identify if this tolerance tightening is practicable.

Thank You