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

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Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

Proposed amendments to ATP:**New proposals**

Addition to ATP of provisions allowing for the use of the bodies of refrigerated, mechanically refrigerated, heated or mechanically refrigerated and heated equipment as insulated equipment without conducting separate inspections of such bodies to check compliance with the relevant ATP standards and requirements

Transmitted by the Russian Federation*Summary***Executive summary:**

In certain situations, it may become necessary to use special equipment fitted with thermal appliances (refrigerated, mechanically refrigerated, heated or mechanically refrigerated and heated equipment) without using the thermal appliances, that is, as insulated equipment of the given category. The thermal appliances in question would remain part of the body of the special equipment.

The experts from the Russian Federation are of the opinion that there is no technical reason preventing such use of special equipment with thermal appliances. However, the procedure is not included in ATP, which could lead to issues being raised by the regulatory authorities.



Action to be taken:	Include provisions in ATP to allow bodies of special equipment with thermal appliances to be used as insulated equipment without separate inspection of the bodies in line with the relevant ATP standards and requirements.
Related documents:	None

Introduction

1. Annex 1 to ATP contains definitions and norms for special equipment for the carriage of perishable foodstuffs. All special equipment has an insulated body with a specific value of the overall heat transfer coefficient (K coefficient).

Some special equipment has only an insulated body; there are two categories of such insulated equipment:

- Normally insulated equipment specified by: a K coefficient more than 0.40 W/m²K and less than 0.70 W/m²K
- Heavily insulated equipment specified by: a K coefficient equal to or less than 0.40 W/m²K

The remaining special equipment (known as special equipment with a thermal appliance) covers refrigerated equipment, mechanically refrigerated equipment, heated equipment and mechanically refrigerated and heated equipment with insulated bodies and various thermal appliances for cooling and/or heating the cargo space of the special equipment and maintaining the temperatures within certain ranges.

2. During the operation of special equipment with thermal appliances, situations might occur where its use in its declared capacity, i.e. with working thermal appliances, may be impossible (temporarily or permanently) for various reasons, or impractical. However, the special equipment with thermal appliances may still be used as insulated equipment of the relevant category.

Some reasons for the occurrence of situations where the use of special equipment with thermal appliances of this type is not possible include:

- Malfunction of the thermal appliance of the laden special equipment, where its removal is impossible or impractical (e.g. for technical or economic reasons)
- Absence of a source of electricity required for the thermal appliance of the laden special equipment
- K coefficient higher than set limit (but not exceeding 0.70 W/m²K)

An example of a case of a K coefficient higher than the set limit (but not exceeding 0.70 W/m²K) is as follows: an expert test of special equipment resulted in the conclusion that the equipment should no longer be used as Class C mechanically refrigerated equipment with heavy insulation (FRC) because of concerns on the part of the expert that the K coefficient might exceed 0.40 W/m²K. However, the expert had no doubt (based on, for example, the lack of visible design defects and the service life of the special equipment) that the K coefficient was less than or equal to 0.70 W/m²K. In the current version of ATP, there is no provision for class C mechanically refrigerated equipment fitted with normal insulation, but insulated equipment with normal insulation is included in ATP and can be used. Therefore, after expert inspection, the class C mechanically refrigerated equipment could be transferred to the category of insulated equipment with normal insulation.

3. In view of the above, and considering the need to improve the flexibility of ATP with regard to the use of special equipment, the Russian Federation has prepared proposals

for additions to ATP to allow bodies of special equipment with thermal appliances to be used as insulated equipment without requiring separate inspection for compliance with the standards and requirements of ATP.

4. Taking account of the specific features of the proposals, the experts from the Russian Federation would like to request the Working Group to vote on each of the two proposals separately.

5. The text of ATP, amended as at 30 September 2015, was taken as a basis, together with the proposal of the Russian Federation adopted by the Working Party contained in official document ECE/TRANS/WP.11/2014/13.

Proposal 1 for voting

6. Add the following wording to the end of ATP, annex 1, paragraph 1:

“Any of the other special equipment mentioned below may be considered equivalent to insulated equipment of the relevant category without further inspection (on the basis of a valid ATP certificate) in the following cases:

- Where its use as special equipment is impossible (temporarily or permanently) because of failure of the thermal appliance or the absence of a source of electricity
- Where its use as the special equipment specified is impractical”

Proposal 2 for voting

7. Introduce the following changes and additions to ATP, annex 1, appendix 2, paragraph 5.3 (ii):

“In the case of heavily insulated equipment, if the conclusions of an expert or experts show the body to be unsuitable for keeping in service in its initial class but suitable for continuing in service as normally insulated equipment, then the body may be kept in service in an appropriate class or as insulated equipment with normal isolation for a further three years. In this case, the distinguishing marks (shown in Appendix 4 to this annex) shall be changed appropriately.”

Justification

8. The format of the ATP certificate does not prohibit the classification of special equipment in several places at the same time. Accordingly, there are no grounds for voting against proposals 1 and 2 above.

However, ATP does not indicate anywhere that any special equipment must be classified in the relevant category of insulated equipment.

9. A situation where the ATP certificate indicates, for example, class C mechanically refrigerated equipment fitted with heavy insulation, but does not explicitly show the relevant categories of insulated equipment with heavy insulation (i.e. the special equipment is not classified twice) may occur for the following reasons:

- The absence of any such mandatory procedure in ATP
- The ambiguity of the terminology used in ATP for insulated equipment, as can be seen below

10. The following terminology is ambiguous. When reference is made in annex 1 of ATP to insulated equipment, it is included both as independent special equipment (which only has an insulating body and does not have thermal appliances) and in the relevant general category for all special equipment, according to its K value. This means that the text may be interpreted in different ways and, therefore, there could be differences in the formulation of the test report, expert check reports and ATP certificates.

11. Changes to the terminology used in ATP could eliminate these problems. However, the extent of such changes to ATP goes beyond the proposed addition to annex 1, paragraph 1.

12. Proposal 2 is put forward for the same reasons as those given above. In the current wording of ATP annex 1, appendix 2, paragraph 5.3 (ii), special equipment has to remain in the same class. The experts from the Russian Federation propose allowing for the possibility of transferring special equipment to the category of insulated equipment with normal insulation without further inspections or tests.

Costs

13. No additional costs are required. On the contrary, it would allow for wider and more effective use of special equipment.

Practical feasibility

14. The proposed additions to ATP do not concern the existing classification of special equipment, or the norms and requirements in respect of periodic monitoring and inspection. However, their implementation would expand the scope of ATP regarding the possibility of using special equipment.

Enforceability

15. No problems are foreseen with the implementation of these proposals. No changes to the protocols or the ATP certificate will be needed. The changes only concern additional possibilities for using special equipment.
