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Working Party on Rail Transport 76th session



Agenda item 6

Group of Experts on the Permanent
Identification of Railway Rolling Stock

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Group of Experts on the Permanent Identification of Railway Rolling Stock Background



- Established at the 73rd session of SC.2.
- Activities started in 2020, continued in 2021. Current mandate finished in 2022.
- Objective: To develop a system to fix a unique identifier on railway rolling stock in accordance with the provisions in the Luxembourg Rail Protocol to the Cape Town Convention on International Interests in Mobile Machinery of 2007.
- NO CHANGE TO CURRENT NATIONAL ROLLING STOCK NUMBERING.

Main areas of work (1)



- A. Identify methodologies, tools and good practices for evaluating optimal mechanisms for marking railway rolling stock with unique identifiers to ensure that the marking is compatible with requirements under the Luxembourg Rail Protocol;
- B. Shape open standards for the Unique Rail Vehicle Identification System (URVIS) application among the relevant stakeholders;
- C. Set out recommendations and draft protocols for a range of qualifying rolling stock marking systems with unique identifiers, taking into account the wide range of equipment potentially to be marked, the need to be flexible to adapt to future technological developments and balancing cost with effectiveness;
- D. Consider and recommend protocols on private and public access to the unique identifier, in particular when these are accessible remotely.

(A) Identification of methodologies, tools and good practices

Work undertaken



- Sharing of best practice in railway marking at each session.
- Comparison undertaken with similar systems in:
 - Aviation
 - Maritime
- Discussions on the role of using the blockchain for this work.
- With these activities the Group believes that it has successfully completed this part of the Terms of Reference.

(B, C) Shape open standards, recommendations and proposals

Work undertaken (1)



- Work initially focused on setting the standard to be used for the URVIS identifier and its marker.
- Experts agreed on the need to develop a set of rules to underpin the functioning of the system and developed the: Model Rules for the Permanent Identification of Railway Rolling Stock as set out in **ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/5.**
- Experts agreed on the need for a Revisions Committee to regularly review and update, where necessary, the Model Rules. The Terms of Reference for this Revisions Committee is included in **ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/6.**

(B, C) Shape open standards, recommendations and proposals

Work undertaken (2)



- In considering the membership of the Revisions Committee, the Group suggested that membership should be open to all UN member States and to the entities identified in paragraph 12 of **ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/4**.
- Experts agreed that a non-binding Guidance Note to the Model Rules should be developed, the first of draft of which is included in **ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/7**.
- Experts requested the publication of the Model Rules and Guidance Note.
- **With these activities the Group believes that it has successfully completed this part of the Terms of Reference**

(D) Consider and recommend protocols on access to the unique identifier

Work undertaken



- The Group discussed various protocols.
- The Group agreed that, given current technology, human readable protocols were the preferred option.
- With these activities the Group believes that it has successfully completed this part of the Terms of Reference.

Conclusions and recommendations



The Group of Experts requests that the Working Party:

- Agrees to ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/4, ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/5, ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/6 and ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/7;
- **Recommends documents ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/5 ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/6 and ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/7 to ITC for adoption.**
- Considers inviting the entities identified in para 12 of ECE/TRANS/SC.2/2022/4 to nominate members for the Revisions Committee.
- Requests official publication of the Model Rules and the Draft Guidance Note.
- Ask the secretariat to explore the possibility of adding the UN logo to the URVIS identifier.



Thank you

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