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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of the RID Committee of Experts and the
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Geneva, 11-21 September 2007
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

TANKS*/

Degree of filling

Transmitted by the Government of Belgium

Introduction

1. At the last session of the Joint Meeting (Bern, 26-30 March 2007) the tank working group discussed the informal document INF.15 of Belgium.
2. This paper dealt with the difficulties encountered by the filler to fulfill the provision of 4.3.2.2.4 (“Where shells intended for the carriage of liquids are not divided by partitions or surge plates into sections of not more than 7 500 litres capacity, they shall be filled to not less than 80% or not more than 20% of their capacity.”).
3. In the case of a subdivision by partitions he can do so by checking the tank plate (paragraph 6.8.2.5.1 imposes the marking on the plate of the capacity, and in the case of multiple-element shells, the capacity of each element), but it is impossible for him to see whether or not surge plates are being used to divide the shell into sections of not more than 7 500 litres.

*/ Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organization for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2007/29.

4. It was proposed to overcome this difficulty by adding this information:
- to the particulars inscribed either on the tank itself or on a plate, according to 6.8.2.5.2 of RID and ADR, in the case of tank-containers ;
 - as a remark in the certificate of approval, in the case of tank vehicles (ADR only) ¹.
5. The working group agreed in principle, but was not satisfied with the marking that had been proposed; the Belgian representative was asked to submit an official proposal (see ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/106/Add.1, para. 26).
6. In the proposals below Belgium therefore submits other possibilities for the marking, but it will not oppose any clear and compact alternative.

Proposals

7. Amend the second indent (right-hand column) of 6.8.2.5.2 to read :
- Alternative 1 :
- " – capacity of the shell, supplemented with the symbol “ (20%<OK>80%) “ when the shell is divided by surge plates into sections of not more than 7 500 litres capacity ; ”
- Alternative 2 :
- " – capacity of the shell, supplemented with the symbol “ (20< >80) “ when the shell is divided by surge plates into sections of not more than 7 500 litres capacity ; ”
- Alternative 3 :
- " – capacity of the shell, supplemented with the symbol “ ➔7.500◀ “ when the shell is divided by surge plates into sections of not more than 7 500 litres capacity ; ”.
8. In ADR only, add the following new paragraph at the end of 9.1.3.3 :
- "The certificate of approval for shells divided by surge plates into sections of not more than 7 500 litres capacity shall bear the following remark under No. 11 : “Surge plates divide the shell into sections of not more than 7 500 litres capacity “.
9. In ADR only, replace “1.6.3.32 to 1.6.3.39 (*Reserved*)” with :
- "1.6.3.32 The remark under No. 11 of the certificate of approval, required in 9.1.3.3, need not be indicated on certificates delivered before 1 January 2009.
- 1.6.3.33 to 1.6.3.39 (*Reserved*)”.

¹ The provision of 4.3.2.2.4 does not exist in RID for tank-wagons.

10. Add the following new sub-section 1.6.4.21:

"When the shell of a tank-container was already divided by surge plates into sections of not more than 7 500 litres capacity before 1 January 2009, the capacity of the shell need not be supplemented with the symbol "X" in the particulars required by 6.8.2.5.2 until the first periodic test after that date is performed. "
