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Item 6 (b) of the provisional agenda

Proposals for amendments to RID/ADR/ADN: new proposals

Special Provision 310: Transport of non-tested prototype or low production batteries

Transmitted by the Government of the United Kingdom^{1, 2}

Introduction

1. Paragraph 2.2.9.2 of RID/ADR details substances and articles which may not be accepted for carriage. These include lithium batteries, unless they are covered by special provisions 188, 230 or 636.
2. Special provisions 188 and 230 require, amongst other conditions, that the battery be tested in accordance with the Manual of Tests and Criteria, as specified at 2.2.9.1.7 (a). Special provision 636 is relevant for used batteries. In addition, special provision 661 addresses the carriage of damaged lithium batteries if not collected and presented for carriage in accordance with special provision 636.
3. None of these special provisions will cover the carriage of prototype or low production batteries, which are exempt from testing under special provision 310 and which will require transport when not in a used or damaged state. The consequence is that such batteries cannot legally be carried. Provisions adopted by the United Nations Sub-

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2010-2014 (ECE/TRANS/208, para.106, ECE/TRANS/2010/8, programme activity 02.7(c)).

² Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organisation for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2013/54.

Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods at its 42nd session also only cover the disposal or recycling of lithium cells and batteries.

Proposal

4. Amend 2.2.9.2 to read as follows:

“Substances and articles not accepted for carriage

The following substances and articles shall not be accepted for carriage:

Lithium batteries which do not meet the relevant conditions of special provisions 188, 230 or 636 of Chapter 3.3., unless they are exempt from testing requirements in accordance with special provision 310;”.

Justification

5. Given that special provision 310 exempts these batteries from the testing requirements, it is logical that RID/ADR should make provision for their transport.
