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ATP Handbook

Acceptable changes: list of alterations made to equipment in service that may or may not require testing and the issuance of a new certificate

Transmitted by the Government of France

Background

1. Equipment used for controlled-temperature transport is subject to periodic alteration, repair or improvement in the course of its life.
2. ATP states that material alterations require a new certificate but does not define material alterations.
3. A list seems to be needed showing the material alterations that require performance checks and a new certificate.
4. In order to standardize ATP experts' practices, France has drawn up a list of such alterations, which it proposes should be incorporated into the ATP Handbook.

Impact of the proposal

Technical impact of the method

5. This amendment will make it possible to standardize technical practices and make them safe. It will also ensure that, where an alteration is likely to affect the performance of the equipment, food safety is not affected.

Financial impact of the method

6. This proposal has no major financial implications but it will help avoid unnecessary testing on equipment that does not need it and ensure that equipment that really needs it is tested. It will also prevent any distortion in competition that could arise from uneven application of the agreement.

Proposed amendment to the ATP Handbook

7. France's proposal is to insert in the ATP Handbook, after the first paragraph of annex 1, appendix 1, the following summary table listing the situations most commonly found in practice:

“The competent authority shall require, or not require, a check of equipment in use and the issuance of a new certificate, in accordance with the recommendations in the table below:

Alteration	Description	Alteration authorized?		Test required?		New certificate required?		Comments
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Unit replaced	By a new unit of equal or greater capacity	X			X	X		
	By a unit of smaller capacity		X	Alteration may be made by an accredited manufacturer of new equipment				
	By a second-hand unit of equal or greater capacity	X		X		X		If the equipment reference identifies the unit, the unit must be of the same type as identified in the reference or its addendums
Chassis replaced		X			X	X		
Evaporator replaced	Same	X			X		X	
	Equal or greater exchange surface area	X			X	X		Evaporator must be of the same type as mentioned in the unit reference or its addendums
	Smaller exchange surface area		X	Alteration may be made by an accredited manufacturer of new equipment				
Relief valve, fans, eutectic plates or tubes replaced	By same component as described in equipment reference or addendums	X			X		X	
Body repaired	Complete panel replaced	X		X			X	

Alteration	Description	Alteration authorized?		Test required?		New certificate required?		Comments
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Alteration	Door replaced	X			X		X	
	Repair to polyester skin	X			X		X	
	Minor repair to gel-coat	X			X		X	
Change in number, category or classes of compartments of equipment	Conversion from multi-temperature equipment with two compartments to mono-temperature equipment with or without insulated compartment	X		X		X		Removal of second evaporator, or of eutectic device, required
	Conversion from insulated to refrigerated (one compartment or entire equipment)		X	X				Alteration may be made by an accredited manufacturer of new equipment
	Conversion from refrigerated to insulated (one compartment or entire equipment)	X		Visual inspection only				Removal of thermal appliance and refurbishment with buffer required
Change in number or type of openings				X				Alteration may be made by an accredited manufacturer of new equipment

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