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

Bern, 17–21 March 2014

Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

Proposals for amendments to RID/ADR/ADN:

New proposals

Replacement of UIC leaflets 592-2 and 592-4 by UIC leaflet 592

Transmitted by the International Union of Railways (UIC)^{1, 2}

Introduction

1. In 2013, UIC informed the Joint Meeting of the withdrawal of UIC leaflets 592-2 and 592-4, to which reference is made in RID and ADR in 6.11.4.1 and 7.1.3, and their replacement with a new UIC leaflet 592 of 2010,³ entitled “Intermodal Transport Units (other than semi-trailers) for vertical transshipment and suitable for carriage on wagons – Minimum requirements”.
2. The leaflets withdrawn, 592-2 and 592-4, have been archived and can be obtained on submission of a request to the ETF department of UIC, following a specific procedure.
3. UIC leaflets are amended in line with EN and ISO standards whenever a change is warranted. In particular, where requirements are covered by standards, UIC gradually removes them from the leaflets, inserting instead references to the standards or, if appropriate, withdrawing the leaflet.

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2012–2016 (ECE/TRANS/224, para. 94, and ECE/TRANS/2012/12, programme activity 02.7 (A1c)).

² Circulated by the Intergovernmental Organization for International Carriage by Rail (OTIF) under the symbol OTIF/RID/RC/2014/4.

³ The second edition, published in 2013, is reproduced in informal document INF.3.



4. UIC leaflet 592 incorporates, in particular:
 - The merger of UIC leaflets 592-2 and 592-4, pursuant to the decision to draw up a single leaflet to cover all the types of intermodal transport units (ITUs) other than semi-trailers, with the following modifications:
 - The inclusion of 45' land containers;
 - The creation of a new class called UIC bodies (land containers of a height > 2600 mm, 36t without grab zones);
 - The inclusion of stackable swap bodies;
 - The creation of annexes setting out the approval process for prototypes and series units;
 - The change from version 1 of 2010 (published in late 2012) to version 2 of 2013 (publication scheduled for early 2014), mainly because of:
 - The removal of IT marking;
 - The removal of ISO containers that are defined in ISO 1496;
 - The inclusion of tests for swap bodies suitable for concentrated loads (pending EN 283);
 - The inclusion of code length 98 (asymmetric swap-bodies);
 - Reference to EN 13044 whenever necessary.
5. UIC leaflet 592, like the withdrawn leaflets 592-2 and 592-4 and UIC leaflets 591 and 592-3 mentioned in the RID and ADR Regulations, is not restricted to the transport of dangerous goods, in respect of which it refers to RID.
6. There is no reference to the UIC leaflets in either European rail legislation or the appendices to the Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF). The requirements given in the leaflets are considered as general requirements intended to ensure that trains run safely. They are the rules established by the different participants (shippers, carriers, etc.) with the aim of achieving that regulatory objective.
7. The new situation that has arisen with the development of European and international regulations for rail transport of goods means that it would be appropriate, in the context of RID and ADR, to consider:
 - The validity of maintaining application of the leaflets as a statutory requirement:
 - Globally;
 - Or partially, indicating the parties concerned;
 - The appropriateness of moving from a statutory requirement to a recommended good practice;
 - The possibility of deleting the references to the leaflets.
8. However, the approach adopted must be cautious and all the different aspects must be studied in consultation with the various stakeholders, including the International Union of Combined Rail-Road Transport Companies (IURR), before any proposal for a change to the regulations is drawn up. UIC would suggest beginning these discussions in 2014.

Proposal

6.11.4.1 In the NOTE, replace “and 592-2 to 592-4” with:

“, 592 and 592-3”.

7.1.3 Replace “592-2 (status at 10.01.2004, 6th edition), 592-3 (status at 01.01.1998, 2nd edition) and 592-4 (status at 05.01.2007, 3rd edition)” with:

“592 (status at 10.01.2013, 2nd edition) and 592-3 (status as at 01.01.1998, 2nd edition)”.
