

Report from the informal working group on Modular Vehicle Combinations (MVC)

After the 77th session of GRRF, a meeting of the informal working group have taken place during the 2nd and 3rd of July.

This first meeting was held in Gothenburg and 20 delegates participated at the meeting.

Industry was represented by vehicle manufacturers, component manufacturers and organisations, Contracting Parties from Nordic countries and the Netherlands were also present.

The purpose of the working group is to enable the type approval of vehicles that are being combined into Modular Vehicle Combinations or combinations consisting of towing vehicle and multiple trailers.

The purpose of this first meeting was to: (i) collect comments and ideas on what issues shall be discussed within the working group and (ii) also find and list the regulations that the group consider needs to be amended.

The outcome of discussions shows, so far, that regulation on brakes, steering, stability, and couplings are the most interesting for the moment. We also need to clarify definitions for some vehicle categories.

The technical issues discussed so far are:

- (a) Definition of a dolly to be able to type approve it to UN R13 and R55
 - (i) What should be the requirements?
 - (ii) Where should the definition be? UN R13, RE3 etc.?
 - (iii) Should a dolly be type approved to UN R79 (e.g. in case of dolly with front steered axle)?
- (b) Electric control line
- (c) ESC and Stability
- (d) Park brake functionality
- (e) Warning signals to the driver
- (f) Communication between vehicles (ISO11992 and pin 5)
- (g) Requirements for dollies (performance, compatibility etc.)
- (h) CLEPA document GRRF-66-08 is a good base for discussion
- (i) ISO 18868 for performance calculation of coupling forces

More detailed information is available in the meeting minutes, informal document MVC-01-01, that will be uploaded to the UNECE web page under informal groups of GRRF.

For the next meeting we plan to have further discussions on these issues. We will also try to investigate the status of national regulations that these vehicle combinations are affected by today, to see if a harmonisation under 1958 agreement and type approval is possible.

Next meeting is scheduled for the 7th and 8th of October this year.
