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Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

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

Online refresher training for drivers of dangerous goods

Transmitted by the International Road Transport Union (IRU) *

Summary

Executive summary: Provide for online refresher training for the renewal of the ADR/ADN training certificate.

Action to be taken: Amend sub-section 8.2.2.5.2 of ADR and 8.2.2.5 of ADN.

Reference documents: ECE/TRANS/WP.15/2017/17.

Introduction

1. Based on the ADR/ADN Chapter 8.2 requirements, drivers/experts carrying dangerous goods have the obligation to attend a basic training course and to pass an examination accordingly.
2. Prior to twelve months before the date of expiry of the certificate, drivers/experts shall attend and pass an examination in the framework of a refresher training programme, as indicated in sub-sections 8.2.2.5 and 8.2.2.7.1.6 of the ADR and 8.2.2.5 and 8.2.2.7.1.5 of ADN.
3. The minimum duration of the “basic training course” is 18 teaching units, as specified in sub-section 8.2.2.4.1, while the refresher training programme of two days described in 8.2.2.5.2 corresponds to 16 teaching units, as specified in sub-section 8.2.2.3.7 of ADR.

* In accordance with the draft programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2018-2019, (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/237, annex V, (9.2)).

4. Due to advanced technologies in general, more possibilities are foreseen in all sectors for transport operators, even in training courses. To improve and facilitate the professionalism of the education for all parties, IRU is looking to simplify the access to training by e-learning.

Background

5. It has been confirmed that online driver training for dangerous goods will be an option for the driver when applying to refresher training and they will have the choice of either performing the two days in person at the training institute or just one day in person and the other day online.

6. IRU has analysed the following:

- Drivers shall be present during two days for a refresher training course.
- A large part of the refresher training course is theory, which on average in contracting parties represents between one and one-and-a-half days.

7. Therefore, IRU proposes to amend the refresher training course further, in order to improve and cover more theory and ultimately provide better and more practical exercises for drivers by using e-learning solutions.

8. As a first step, e-learning should be considered only for the one-day theory refresher training course (eight teaching units).

9. Training institutes implementing such a process for their clients (drivers) shall guarantee, prior to start of the last day of the refresher training course (practical exercises), that drivers shall pass the examination in order to continue with the practical course. The examination shall cover the theory items contained in sub-section 8.2.2.3.2 and should last at least 30 minutes.

10. If drivers do not pass the examination of the e-learning refresher training course, they should re-start their e-learning course – either at home or in a training institute – or take a standard refresher training course for a certificate of driver's training (as per 8.2.2.8.5).

11. The e-learning of the refresher training course should cover the following topics, based on sub-section 8.2.2.3.2 in principle:

- (a) General requirements governing the carriage of dangerous goods
- (b) Main types of hazards
- (c) Information on environmental protection in the control of the transfer of waste
- (f) Marking, labelling, placarding and orange-coloured plate marking
- (h) Purpose and the method of operation of technical equipment on vehicles
- (i) Prohibitions on mixed loading in the same vehicle or container
- (j) Precautions to be taken during loading and unloading of dangerous goods
- (k) General information concerning civil liability
- (l) Information on multimodal transport operations
- (n) Traffic restrictions in tunnels and instructions on behaviour in tunnels (prevention of incidents, safety, action in the event of fire or other emergencies, et cetera)
- (o) Security awareness.

12. At the end of the refresher training course, participants shall pass the examination as per sub-section 8.2.2.7.1.6.

Proposal

13. IRU proposes to amend further sub-section 8.2.2.5.2 of ADR to be read as follows, with the inclusion of the bold sentence:

14. “8.2.2.5.2 The duration of the refresher training, including individual practical exercises, shall be of at least two days for comprehensive training courses, **which could include one day of e-learning**, or at least one half the duration allocated to the corresponding initial basic or initial specialisation training courses as specified in 8.2.2.4.1 for individual training courses.”

15. IRU proposes to amend the beginning of sub-section 8.2.2.5 of ADN to read as follows:

“8.2.2.5 Planning of refresher course

The refresher course shall take place before the expiry of the deadline referred to in 8.2.1.4, 8.2.1.6 or 8.2.1.8.

The following minimum periods of training, **which could include half the sessions of e-learning**, shall be observed: ”. Remainder unchanged.

Justification

Safety: Clear text helps the driver to demonstrate foresight and lend a modern appearance to the refresher training of drivers engaged in the transport of dangerous goods by roads and will, in accordance with applicable provisions, improve transport safety.

Feasibility: The training content, the mechanism of their application, as well as the obligations of the respective parties, are clearly stated.
