



REPLACEMENT PARTS

THE OICA POINT OF VIEW

1. INTRODUCTION

Several existing or draft ECE Regulations address both vehicle original equipment and replacement parts, thereby ensuring that certain minimum levels of safety, security or environmental performance are met at type approval, at registration as well as during the vehicle lifetime when specific components must be replaced.

Replacement parts can be supplied by the vehicle manufacturers themselves, whereby these parts are totally identical to original equipment installed during vehicle production and are fully documented in the system type approval(s) granted to that vehicle type. Such parts can consequently be considered as already having been type approved during the system approval process.

On the other hand, replacement parts can also be parts supplied on the aftermarket outside control by the vehicle manufacturer, for maintenance of specific vehicle types. For these parts, it is obviously imperative to ensure that they meet the same performance as the original parts.

It appears however that some confusion might exist between the two types of replacement parts mentioned above. This might be due to the various different definitions used in several ECE (draft) Regulations, such as ECE Regulation No. 59 (replacement silencers), draft Regulation on airbags, draft Regulation on wheels, ...

It would therefore be worthwhile to consider the possibility to unify these definitions. A common definition, for use in a variety of Regulations, could be incorporated in the ECE legal framework, through the Consolidated Resolution R.E.3 for instance.

2. THE PROPOSAL

As explained above, common definitions to distinguish original from non-original parts could be worded as follows:

"Original equipment part" means a part which is supplied by a manufacturer (for production use or for subsequent maintenance) for a vehicle type and documented in system type approval(s) granted to that vehicle type under the relevant Regulation(s).

"Replacement part" means any part supplied for fitment to a vehicle type, which is not an "original equipment part" as defined above.

OICA trusts that WP.29 will give due consideration to this proposal, which might, if necessary, be further elaborated.
