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FIRE-FIGHTING APPLIANCES
(Document TRANS/WP.15/2000/5)

Transmitted by the International Road Transport Union (IRU)

During the last WP.15 meeting, IRU presented its informal document N° 18 with comments in respect of document TRANS/WP.15/1999/42. The document TRANS/WP.15/2000/5 now on the table dealing with the same subject contains some text changes.

The part of IRU's Informal Document No.18 concerning ABC Powder has been included.

The results of the Belgian APRAGAZ test have not been taken into account and are even set aside on grounds that are beside the point (probably due to language problems).

The justification that is given in document -/2000/5 for increasing the inspection period is very weak. "Incidentally, the inspection period has already been fixed at 12 months in a number of European countries".

The IRU comment to this is that there are also a number of countries that are in favour of a 5-year inspection period and on the basis of the APRAGAZ test, there are no arguments in favour of a period shorter than 5 years.

With regard to harmonization, it also makes more sense to harmonize on the 5 year period than on a shorter period.
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Concerning the capacity, document -/2000/5 stipulates that in practice, the extinguisher "always has a capacity of 6 kg". The IRU considers that this is an error and does not reflect reality throughout the 34 ADR countries. In reality, the extinguishers used are as mentioned in marginal 10.240.

Conclusion

- replace 8.1.3.1. of document -/2000/5 by the present text of marginal 10.240 (1) (a) and (b)
 - as it stands in document -/159/Add.11, article 8.1.4.1.

 - 8.1.3.2. of document -/2000/5, replace "12 months" by "5 years".
Alternative: omit the paragraph.

 - replace 8.1.3.3. and 8.1.3.4. of document -/2000/5 with the present text of marginal 10 240 (3).
 - as it stands in document -/159/Add.11, article 8.1.4.3.
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