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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport
of Dangerous Goods
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PART 9 OF ADR

9.1.2 Approval of EX/II, EX/III, FL, OX and AT vehicles

Transmitted by the Government of Sweden

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: In 9.1.2.1.2 of Annex B it is required that the certificate of approval shall be drawn up in the language or one of the languages of the country issuing it, and also, if that language is not English, French or German, in English, French or German, unless agreements concluded between the countries concerned in the transport operation provide otherwise.

The requirement to draw up the certificate of approval in more than one language, e.g. Swedish and English, causes problems with the limited spaces provided in the boxes in the harmonised certificate of approval.

Action to be taken: The certificate of approval may be drawn up in the language of the issuing Contracting Party only, under the condition that whenever a text is introduced under item 11 "Remarks" in a language which is not English, French or German, this text has to appear in English, French or German also.

Related documents: ADR 2001 and "certificate of approval".

Introduction

In 9.1.2.1.2 of Annex B it is required that the certificate of approval shall be drawn up in the language or one of the languages of the country issuing it. If that language is not English, French or German, the certificate shall be drawn up also in English, French or German. Nevertheless, agreements concluded between the countries concerned in the transport operation may provide otherwise.

In countries where more than one language is required this would mean either that the boxes has to be enlarged or that the size of the text has to be reduced, in order to be able to issue a certificate according to the requirements stated in 9.1.2.1.2. Both alternatives are, however, not satisfactory. The first alternative will make it impossible to keep the layout as laid down in 9.1.2.1.5, and the second alternative will lead to an illegible certificate.

Proposal

The Government of Sweden presents the following proposal in order to solve the problem for Contracting Parties not having English, French or German as one of the languages of the country.

The text in the model of the certificate of approval may be drawn up in the language of the issuing Contracting Party only, under the condition that whenever a text is introduced under item 11 "Remarks" in a language which is not English, French or German, this text has to appear in English, French or German also.

Justification

According to 9.1.2.1.2 the layout of the certificate of approval shall conform to the model shown in 9.1.2.1.5. This means that the numbering system of the items of the certificate of approval will be the same regardless of the language of the issuing country.

If it is necessary to introduce a text under item 11 "Remarks" this text shall appear, not only, in the language of the country issuing the certificate of approval, but also in English, French or German. Doing so, it is possible for the authorities of the Contracting Parties to fully understand a certificate of approval issued in any other country.

One of the main goals of a certificate is to ease the possibilities for the competent authorities to check if the transport is carried out in accordance with the ADR Agreement. Another goal is to have a harmonised layout of the certificate of approval.

Proposed text in 9.1.2.1.2 of Annex B:

“9.1.2.1.2

Conformity of EX/II, EX/III, FL, OX and AT vehicles with the requirements of this Part is subject to a certificate of approval issued by the competent authority of the country of registration for each vehicle whose inspection yields satisfactory results. It shall be drawn up in the language or one of the languages of the country issuing it. It shall conform to the model shown in 9.1.2.1.5.

Any remarks under item 11 of the certificate of approval shall be drawn up in the language or one of the languages of the country issuing it and also, if that language is not English, French, or German, in English, French or German.”

Safety implications

Accepting the proposal introduces an increase in safety for the transport of dangerous goods since it will maintain the harmonised layout of the certificate of approval.

Feasibility

The proposal for a certificate of approval in one language only should not implement additional costs but have practical advantages since the requirement for a harmonised certificate of approval eases the work of the authorities.

Enforceability

No problems in enforceability are foreseen.
