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PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GLOBAL TECHNICAL
REGULATION CONCERNING UNIFORM PROVISIONS FOR HAND CONTROLS, TELL-
TALES AND INDICATORS PRESENT ON CATEGORY 1 AND 2 VEHICLES

Transmitted by the representative of Canada

Note: This document contains a preliminary report on the development of a global technical regulation (gtr) concerning uniform provisions for hand controls, tell-tales and indicators present on category 1 and 2 vehicles.

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- PRELIMINARY REPORT -

On the Development of a Global Technical Regulation Concerning Uniform Provisions for Hand Controls, Tell-tales and Indicators Present on Category 1 and 2 Vehicles

This preliminary report was prepared in response to paragraph 5. of TRANS/WP.29/882 – Guidelines Regarding Proposing and Developing of Global Technical Regulations (gtr), adopted by AC.3 and endorsed during the one-hundred-and-twenty-seventh session of WP.29.

Introduction.

During the sixty-sixth session of GRSG in June 1999, Canada and the United States of America proposed a new draft UNECE Regulation regarding hand controls, tell-tales and indicators to be, as a first step, annexed to the 1958 Agreement (as none was present), and as a second step, develop a global technical regulation under the 1998 Global Agreement.

The work on the gtr was postponed until the one-hundred-and-twenty-sixth session of WP.29 in March 2002, at which time AC.3 established the priorities for developing future global technical regulations, and WP.29 adopted the Programme of Work for the 1998 Global Agreement. This Programme of Work included development of a gtr regarding the uniform provisions for hand controls, tell-tales and indicators present on category 1 and 2 vehicles.

Current status.

Upon receipt of the formal proposal (TRANS/WP.29/AC.3/2) for development of a gtr regarding the uniform provisions for hand controls, tell-tales and indicators present on category 1 and 2 vehicles, GRSG has examined its merits.

To do so, GRSG followed the recommendations of paragraph 4. of TRANS/WP.29/882.

In the absence of a UNECE Regulation under the 1958 Agreement or a regulation in the Compendium of candidate global technical regulations, GRSG has considered the documents listed in the proposal, namely:

- EC Directive 78/316/EEC – Identification of controls, tell-tales and indicators as amended by Commission Directive 93/91/EEC.
- U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 49: Transportation; Part 571.101: Controls and displays.
- Canada Motor Vehicle Safety Regulation No. 101 – Location and identification of controls and displays.

GRSG has also considered the draft UNECE Regulation being developed for the 1958 Agreement as well as the known voluntary standards on the subject listed in the proposal, specifically:

- ISO 2575-2001 "Road vehicles: Symbols for control indicators and tell-tales" and
- ISO/FDIS 4040-2001 "Road vehicles: Location of hand controls, indicators and tell-tales in motor vehicles"

Concluding that the most relevant regulations and voluntary standards on the subject of installation and identification of controls, tell-tales and indicators were already considered during development of the draft UNECE Regulation, GRSG referenced the same documentation in addition to the UNECE Regulation as the basis for development of the new global technical regulation.

GRSG has agreed that there is a need to harmonize the way in which the motor vehicle hand controls, tell-tales and indicators are installed and identified and decided that the subject is of sufficient importance to warrant the development of a regulation.

To provide an effective, performance oriented method to address the problem, GRSG decided to follow its experience acquired during the development of the draft UNECE Regulation regarding the same subject. Since the work on the UNECE Regulation was well advanced, GRSG did not seek any additional research or testing to help in development of the proposed gtr.

One issue remains contentious: the selection of symbols. Discussions are presently under way to seek a resolution to this issue.

Elements, which cannot be agreed upon by the Working Party, will be identified and dealt with in accordance with the protocol established by AC.3 and WP.29.

Future steps.

Due to the advanced stage of the development of the global technical regulation regarding road vehicle hand controls, tell-tales and indicators, GRSG is in a position to draft an approximate timeline for conclusion of the project.

Canada anticipates being in a position to present the revised draft of the gtr during the GRSG session in October 2005. Pending GRSG's adoption of the gtr text, the final report will be presented to AC.3 and WP.29 for consideration during their November 2006 session.

Conclusion.

In view of the above preliminary review, GRSG would like to request to be allowed to conclude its work on the draft regulation based on the proposal TRANS/WP.29/AC.3/2.

After discussion and agreement in GRSG, the draft gtr will sent to WP.29 for voting.

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