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World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling

Sixtieth session

Geneva, 1 - 3 October 2008

Item 4(f) of the provisional agenda

REGULATION No. 48
(Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices)

Clarifications on installation requirements

Proposal for Supplement 3 to the 04 series of amendment to Regulation No. 48

Submitted by the expert from the International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers */

The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from the International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (OICA) suggesting to modify the requirements for the installation of side retro-reflectors on chassis-cabs. The modifications to the current text of the Regulation (including Supplement 1 to the 04 series of amendments) are marked in bold characters.

*/ In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2006-2010 (ECE/TRANS/166/Add.1, programme activity 02.4), the World Forum will develop, harmonize and update Regulations in order to enhance performance of vehicles. The present document is submitted in conformity with that mandate.

A. PROPOSAL

Paragraph 6.17.1., amend to read:

"6.17.1. Presence
Mandatory: on all motor vehicles the length of which exceeds 6m, **except for chassis-cabs.**
....."

Paragraph 6.17.4.3., amend to read:

"6.17.4.3. In length: at least one side retro-reflector ...

.....

If the structure of the vehicle makes it impossible to comply with such a requirement, this distance may be increased to 4 m. The distance between the rearmost side retro-reflector and the rear of the vehicle shall not exceed 1 m. However, for motor vehicles the length of which does not exceed 6 m **and for chassis-cabs**, it is sufficient to have one side retro-reflector fitted within the first third and/or within the last third of the vehicle length."

B. JUSTIFICATION

Chassis-cab vehicles have no solid exterior part between the front and rear axles and in the rear overhang. This area (in red on the enclosed picture) offers free space for the bodywork. Side-members do not provide good location for reflectors since these side-members shall remain free for body installation, and the visibility of the reflectors in this case would be very limited due to suspended elements (battery box, rear axles, fuel and urea tanks...). It is then impossible to fit retro-reflectors that can fulfil the requirements of geometric visibility. These requirements can be fulfilled only at later stage when the body is finished.

This proposal aligns installation requirements with those of side-marker lamps, as these two functions are often grouped in one body.

