ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29)

Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling (GRE)
(Fifty-second session, 30 March - 2 April 2004,
 agenda item 2.13.)

PROPOSAL FOR DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO REGULATION No. 48

(Installation of lighting and light-signalling devices)

Transmitted by the expert from Germany

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Note: This document is distributed to the Experts on Lighting and Light-Signalling only.

A. PROPOSAL

Paragraph 6.21.1., amend to read:

"6.21.1. Presence

Prohibited on vehicles of category M_1.
Mandatory on vehicles of the categories M_3, N_3 and O_3
Optional on vehicles of other categories (M_2, N_1, N_2, O_1, O_2, and O_4)."

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B. JUSTIFICATION

A number of heavy accidents with fatalities are caused by slowly driving or parking heavy trucks and trailers. The reason is mostly the insufficient conspicuousness.

Studies in the past have shown that the reduction of rear accidents in combination with heavy trucks and trailers by contour marking is between 25% and 41%!

Therefore it is a real safety benefit to require mandatory contour marking on the basis of Regulation No. 104 for this categories of vehicles.

The benefit given by reduction of accidents with heavy trucks and trailers to reduce the national economical costs, coming from these heavy accidents, is much higher than the cost needed for the installation of these materials.

The experts of Germany see therefore an improvement for road safety and a benefit for the national economy by a mandatory improved conspicuousness of vehicles of the categories M_3, N_3 and O_3.

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