

Proposal for an amendment to ECE Regulation No. 78 (Motorcycle Braking Systems)

Submitted by the expert from the European Commission

The following text is based on document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRRF/2006/12 (Proposal for draft 03 series of amendments to Regulation No. 78).

A. PROPOSAL

After paragraph 5.3.3. a new paragraph 5.4. shall be added as follows:

"5.4. Brake lining materials:

Brake linings shall not contain asbestos."

B. JUSTIFICATION.

Document ECE/TRANS/WP.29/GRRF/2006/12 introduces the technical provisions of the proposed GTR on motorcycle braking systems into ECE Regulation No. 78. During discussions on the GTR, it was agreed that the GTR itself should not contain specific proposals to prohibit asbestos in brake linings. This was because there is currently no referenced standardized test method with which to determine if asbestos is present. Iso, the handling of asbestos and other substances known as "hazardous materials" may be addressed by those parts of the governments of the Contracting Parties that deal with public health or environmental issues. In light of the above, it was decided to omit restrictions on the content of the brake friction material, and leave this issue for resolution at the national level.

The existing UNECE Regulation No. 78 (as well as the other UNECE Braking Regulations and equivalent European Community Directives) prohibits asbestos in brake linings. Therefore it is logical, and essential, to at least maintain the existing requirements in the revised Regulation No. 78.
