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Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling

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Item 4.4. of the provisional agenda

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

Requirements for light-signalling lamps

Proposal for draft amendments to Regulation No. 48

Submitted by the expert from Japan

The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from Japan proposing to reduce the minimal installation height of side direction-indicator lamps, stop lamps and rear position lamps for low floor semi-trailers. The modifications to the current text of the Regulation (up to Supplement 1 to the 03 series of amendments) are marked in **bold** characters.

Note: This document is distributed to the Experts of the Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling (GRE) only.

A. PROPOSAL

Paragraph 6.5.4.2.1., amend to read:

"**6.5.4.2.1.** The height of the light-emitting surface of the side direction-indicator lamps of categories 5 or 6 must not be:

less than: 350 mm for M₁ and N₁ category of vehicles, and 500 mm for all other categories of vehicles, both measured from the lowest point (**250 mm in the case of semi-trailers if the shape of the bodywork makes it impossible to keep within 350 mm**); and

more than: 1,500 mm, measured from the highest point."

Paragraph 6.7.4.2.1., amend to read:

"**6.7.4.2.1.** For S1 or S2 categories devices: above the ground, not less than 350 mm (**250 mm in the case of semi-trailers if the shape of the bodywork makes it impossible to keep within 350 mm**) nor more than 1,500 mm (2,100 mm if the shape of the bodywork makes it impossible to keep within 1,500 mm and if the optional lamps are not installed).

If the optional lamps above the mandatory lamps."

Paragraph 6.10.4.2., amend to read:

"**6.10.4.2.** In height: above the ground, not less than 350 mm (**250 mm in the case of semi-trailers if the shape of the bodywork makes it impossible to keep within 350 mm**) nor more than 1,500 mm (2,100 mm if the shape of the bodywork makes it impossible to keep within 1,500 mm and if the optional lamps are not installed). If the optional lamps are installed, they shall be placed at a height compatible with the applicable requirements of paragraph 6.10.4.1., the symmetry of the lamps, and at a vertical distance as large as the shape of the bodywork makes it possible, but not less than 600 mm above the mandatory lamps."

B. JUSTIFICATION

Figures 1 and 2 illustrate examples when installation of side direction indicator lamps (hazard warning signal), stop lamps and rear position lamps is not possible according to the current requirements.

Example of lamp installation in the rear of a low floor semi-trailer carrying heavy machinery vehicles

Figure 1 below shows that it is impossible to install side direction-indicator lamps (hazard warning signal), stop lamps and rear position lamps in a height of 350 mm or more from the lower rim.

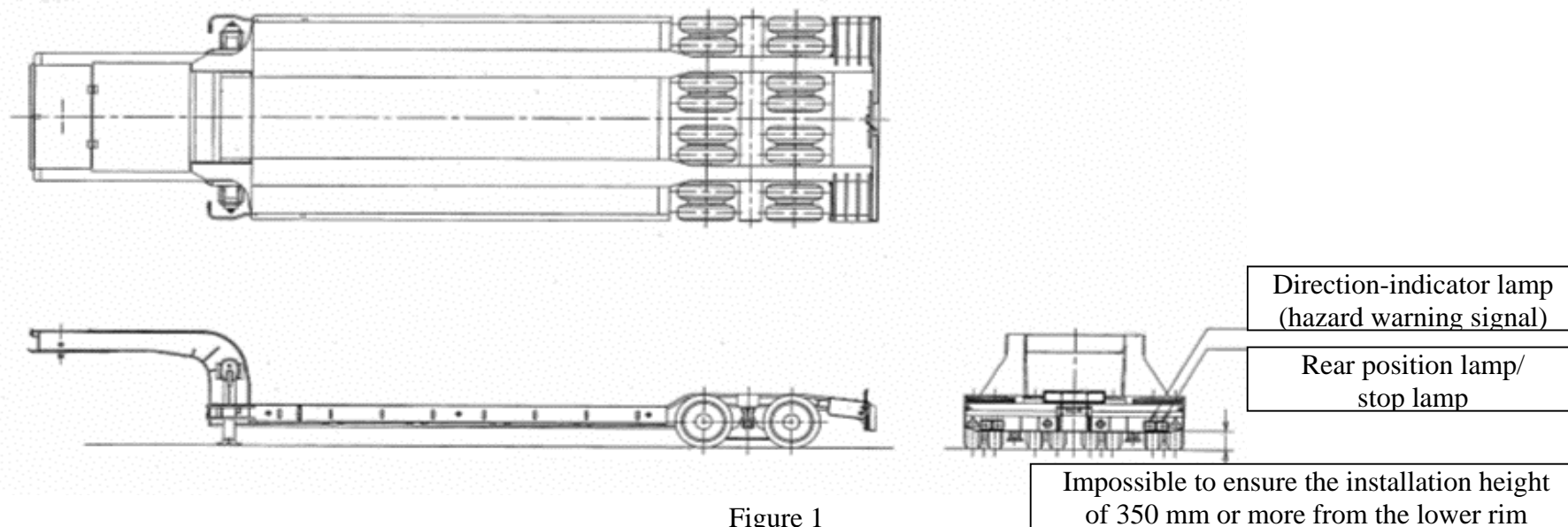


Figure 1

In the case of low floor semi-trailers carrying heavy machinery vehicles, installation height requirement "350 mm or more" for side direction-indicator lamps, stop lamps and rear position lamps cannot be met. The reason is that such semi-trailers usually are equipped with a loading ramp for self-propelled installation of vehicles on it and the above-mentioned lamps can only be installed on the rear of the loading ramp.

Japan proposes that the minimal installation height of the above-mentioned lamps should be reduced to 250 mm or even more for vehicles that are equipped with a loading ramp for self-propelled installation from the back.

Example of self-propelled installation of a heavy machinery vehicle onto the low floor semi-trailer using the loading ramp at the rear

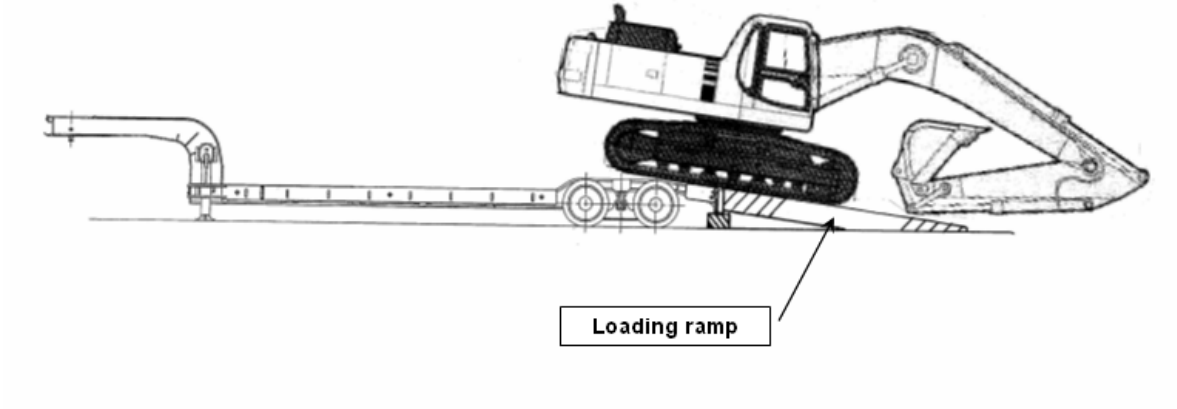


Figure 2
