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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs

Sixty-fifth session

Geneva, 27-30 October 2009

Items 5 (b) and 6 of the provisional agenda

**PROPOSALS OF AMENDMENTS TO ATP
AND
ATP HANDBOOK**

Requirements for air temperature monitoring devices during carriage of quick-frozen foodstuffs -
their placement, frequency of measurement, air temperature recording and data storage time*

Transmitted by the Government of the Russian Federation

SUMMARY

Executive summary:

Annex 2, Appendix 1 of ATP contains general requirements regarding devices for air temperature measurement and recording inside transport equipment during carriage of quick-frozen perishable foodstuffs intended for human consumption. The wording of those requirements is not precise and allows for an ambiguous interpretation.

* The present document is submitted in accordance with the Programme of Work for 2008-2012 of the Inland Transport Committee (ECE/TRANS/2008/11, Item 2.11 (a)) which calls for the "Consideration of amendment proposals to ATP to ensure it is updated as necessary".

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| | <p>It is important to specify the requirements for air temperature measurement and recording devices in the cargo space of transport equipment used for carriage of quick-frozen foodstuffs, in particular, their placement, frequency of measurement, air temperature recording and data storage time.</p> |
| Action to be taken: | <p>Introduce supplements and precisions into Annex 2, Appendix 1 of ATP taking into consideration the requirements of corresponding EU standards.</p> |
| Related documents: | <p>EN 12830:1999. Temperature recorders for the transport, storage and distribution of chilled, frozen, deep-frozen/quick-frozen food and ice cream. Tests, performance, suitability.</p> <p>EN 13485-2002. Thermometers for measuring the air and product temperature for the transport, storage and distribution of chilled, frozen, deep-frozen/quick-frozen food and ice cream. Tests, performance, suitability.</p> <p>EN 13486-2002. Thermometers for measuring the air and product temperature for the transport, storage and distribution of chilled, frozen, deep-frozen/quick-frozen food and ice cream. Tests, performance, suitability.</p> |

Introduction

1. The general requirements for devices for air temperature monitoring inside transport equipment during carriage of quick-frozen perishable foodstuffs intended for human consumption are given in Annex 2, Appendix 1 of ATP. The wording of those requirements is not precise and allows for an ambiguous interpretation.
2. At the sixty-fourth session of the Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs (WP.11), the Russian Federation presented informal document No. 3 with a proposal on the requirements of Annex 2, Appendix 1 of ATP for devices for air temperature measurement and recording inside transport equipment during carriage of quick-frozen foodstuffs, with regard to their placement, frequency of measurement, air temperature recording and data storage time.
3. At the sixty-fourth session informal document No. 3 proposed by the Russian Federation was examined. During the discussions the following suggestions were made:
 - The Russian Federation was invited to submit to the sixty-fifth session an official document with proposed supplements and precisions to Annex 2, Appendix 1;
 - The official document should take into consideration the requirements of standards EN 12830:1999 and EN 13486:2002.
4. The Russian Federation has complied with the Working Party's request and submits for consideration the respective official document.

Proposal

5. Amend Annex 2, Appendix 1 to read as follows:

For the purposes of monitoring the temperature of the air in contact with quick-frozen foodstuffs intended for human consumption during carriage, the transport equipment shall be fitted with a device allowing air temperature measurement, recording, and storage of the collected information.

The device shall be approved by the competent authority of the country in which the means of transport is registered. It shall be placed in the following parts of the transport equipment's cargo area:

- *With side doors (door) or end door and upper cold air distribution system – near (left or right) the bottom of the door aperture;*
- *With side doors (door) or end door and lower cold air distribution system – in the middle of the top of the door aperture;*
- *For other transport equipment – in the highest air temperature area.*

The measurement unit of the device shall enable temperature measurement accurate to within $\pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$; the recorder shall register the temperature with the following frequency:

- *At least once every 5 minutes if the duration of the journey does not exceed 24 hours;*
- *At least once every 15 minutes if the duration of the journey is from 24 hours to 7 days;*
- *At least once every 60 minutes if the duration of the journey exceeds 7 days.*

The recording of the air temperature shall include the air temperature itself, as well as the time and date of each measurement. The recorder of the device shall allow it to identify the shutdown of the device if such occurs during the carriage of quick-frozen foodstuffs.

The operator of the transport equipment that has been used for the carriage of quick-frozen foodstuffs shall keep the records for at least one year after unloading.

However, for transport equipment in service at the date of the entry into force of the amended version of this appendix, the above provisions will be progressively applicable within three years after that date.

6. Withdraw comment 2 to Annex 2, Appendix 1 in the ATP Handbook.

Justification

7. In the Russian Federation's opinion it is crucial to ensure harmonized observance of ATP provisions by all Contracting Parties in order to preserve the quality of transported foodstuffs. This also requires specifying the ATP provisions regarding the air temperature monitoring inside transport equipment during the carriage of quick-frozen foodstuffs.

8. After the introduction of the modifications and precisions proposed by the Russian Federation in Annex 2, Appendix 1 of ATP most of the questions related to temperature monitoring inside transport equipment during carriage of quick-frozen foodstuffs will have been solved.

Costs

9. The need to equip transport equipment used for the carriage of quick-frozen foodstuffs with measuring and recording devices allowing the measurement, recording and storage of air temperature information.

Feasibility

10. The proposed supplements and precisions to Annex 2, Appendix 1 of ATP will enable the use of common principles for air temperature monitoring inside transport equipment during the carriage of quick-frozen foodstuffs.

Enforceability

11. No problems are expected in ensuring the equipment of transport equipment with air temperature monitoring devices inside their cargo areas for the carriage of quick-frozen foodstuffs. The industry of ATP Contracting Parties produces a wide range of such devices. Neither should the retrofitting of transport equipment create serious problems.
