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**Economic Commission for Europe****Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods**

**Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) (ADN Safety Committee)**

**Thirty-sixth session**

Geneva, 27-31 January 2020

Item 5 (b) of the provisional agenda

**Proposals for amendments to the Regulations annexed to ADN:  
other proposals**

**Transitional provisions autonomous protection systems****Transmitted by the Government of the Netherlands\* \*\****Summary*

<b>Executive summary:</b>	The document contains a set of amendments to solve the contradiction between Multilateral Agreement M 018 and the current transitional provisions on autonomous protection systems in the Regulations annexed to ADN. It is suggested to amend the transitional provisions and subsequently to revoke M 018.
<b>Action to be taken:</b>	The Safety Committee is invited to discuss and adopt the amendments proposed in paragraph 6.
<b>Related documents:</b>	Informal document INF. 4 of the thirty-fourth session ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/70 (Paragraph 29) Informal document INF. 24 of the thirty-fifth session ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/72 (Paragraph 37)

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\*\* In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2018–2019 (ECE/TRANS/2018/21/Add.1, cluster 9.3).

## Introduction

1. In the ADN 2019, the Contracting Parties adopted a new set of regulations on explosion safety. This set contained new transitional provisions for tank vessels as well (1.6.7.2.2.2 ADN), of which some are related to the explosion (sub)group of autonomous protection systems (9.3.2.20.4, 9.3.3.20.4, 9.3.2.21.1 (g), 9.3.3.21.1.(g), 9.3.2.22.4 (e), 9.3.3.22.4 (d), 9.3.2.26.2 and 9.3.3.26.2 (b). On existing vessels, these subgroups must be applied with the renewal of the Certificate of Approval after 31 December 2024.
2. During the creation of these new regulations on explosion safety, eight Contracting Parties developed and signed in 2016 a multilateral agreement on the subdivision of explosion group II B (M 018). This multilateral agreement required ship owners to apply the new subdivision of the explosion groups with the renewal of their Certificate of Approval after 31 December 2018.
3. This contradiction between M 018 and the adopted transitional provisions has been recognised and discussed during the thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth sessions of the ADN Safety Committee. It was noted that the Recognised Classification Societies indicated that they all currently apply M 018 during the renewal of the Certificate of Approval. Based on this information, the Dutch delegation volunteered to draft a solution for the contradiction between M 018 and the transitional provisions, which can be found below.

## I. Amendments to be discussed

4. Although the initial thought of the ADN Safety Committee was to extend M 018 and to delete the related transitional provisions, the Dutch delegation considers it more appropriate to amend the transitional provisions and to withdraw M 018, since the transitional provisions form an integral part of the Regulations annexed to ADN, contrary to adopted multilateral agreements.
5. During the consideration of the amendments it became clear that, although M 018 only refers to flame arresters, the subdivision of the explosion group applies to all autonomous protection systems. According to the Dutch delegation it is from a safety view not desirable to separate the introduction of the subgroups for the different autonomous protection systems. “Implementing” M 018 in the transitional provisions of the Regulations annexed to ADN therefore requires amending all transitional provisions affecting the explosion group/subgroup of autonomous protection systems.
6. This approach leads to the following amendments on 1.6.7.2.2.2 of ADN:

~~The cancelled text is striked through~~, **the additional text is bold and underlined**

“1.6.7.2.2.2 Table of general transitional provisions: Tank vessels

<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Time limit and comments</i>
...	...	...
9.3.2.20.4 9.3.3.20.4	Explosion group/subgroup	N.R.M. From 1 January 2019 Renewal of the certificate of approval after 31 December <del>2024</del> <b><u>2018</u></b>
...	...	...
9.3.2.21.1 (g) 9.3.3.21.1 (g)	Explosion group/subgroup	N.R.M. From 1 January 2019 Renewal of the certificate of approval after 31 December <del>2024</del> <b><u>2018</u></b>
...	...	...
9.3.2.22.4 (e) 9.3.3.22.4 (d)	Explosion group/subgroup	N.R.M. From 1 January 2019

		Renewal of the certificate of approval after 31 December 2024 <b>2018</b>
...	...	...
9.3.2.26.2 9.3.3.26.2 (b)	Explosion group/subgroup	N.R.M. From 1 January 2019 Renewal of the certificate of approval after 31 December 2024 <b>2018</b>
...	...	...

”

7. The transitional provisions in the current ADN contain two other provision regarding the explosion (sub)group. These are related to non-electric and electric installations and equipment (9.3.X.53.1). If autonomous protection systems should be considered as non-electrical installations, it is desirable to clarify this transitional provision in 1.6.7.2.2.2 of the Regulations annexed to ADN. According to the Dutch delegation it is important to consider the transitional provisions mentioned in paragraph 6 as more specific transitional provisions, which should take precedence over the more generic transitional provision on non-electric installations and equipment (9.3.X.53.1).

## II. M 018

8. If the amendments proposed in paragraph 6 are adopted, M 018 becomes superfluous as from 1 January 2021. The eight signatory Contracting Parties should in this case prepare the revocation of M 018 from this date.

## III. Conclusion

9. The Dutch delegation invites the Safety Committee to discuss and adopt the proposed amendments in paragraph 6, and subsequently requests the involved Contracting Parties to withdraw their support for M 018 as from 1 January 2021.