

Minutes

GRRF IG R 55 Task Force Agricultural
Couplings (TFAC)
5th Meeting
2015-05-26
Frankfurt

Participants: see **TFAC 05-06e**

Agreed dates:

6th meeting

~~2015-09-08~~ **2015-09-10**, Location not yet
determined

Agreed activities:

Prepare concept for R 55-A, clarify proceeding

Date

Responsible

Schauer

Agenda

1. Opening
2. Roll call of the participants
3. Continuation of the Review of the Document (TFAC 04-11)
 - 3.1 Results of the small group and conclusions (TFAC 04-04, TFAC 04-12, TFAC 05-04e)
 - 3.2 Swedish proposal on remote controls (TFAC 03-13, TFAC 04-07)
 - 3.3 Italian proposals and comments (TFAC 04-09, TFAC 05-02e, TFAC 05-03e)
 - 3.4 Static test permissible under which conditions?
4. Further steps
5. Any other business

1. Opening

Mr Schauer welcomed the participants and opened the meeting at 11:00 hrs.

2. Roll call of the participants

The participants introduced themselves (see also Document TFAC 05-06e).

3. Continuation of the Review of the Document (TFAC 04-11)

3.1 Results of the small group and conclusions (TFAC 04-04, TFAC 04-12, TFAC 05-04e)

After a thoroughly discussion, TFAC agreed on the formulas given in Paragraph 3 of TFAC 05-04e of the values V and F_v . The value "a" shall receive the dimension m/s^2 . As shown in TFAC 05-07e, the deviations of the different rules (EC, UN, DE StVZO) are low.

As this modification does not increase the level of requirements, no transitional periods need to be provided. That means also that type approvals granted prior to the application date of the planned amendments remain valid and extensions to this approvals can still be granted.

In Paragraph 7 it was mentioned that the small group will prepare a proposal for the test procedure. However, TFAC came to the conclusion that the presently prescribed test procedures can remain unchanged with the exception of the formulas for the values V and F_v .

3.2 Swedish proposal on remote controls (TFAC 03-13, TFAC 04-07)

Mr Gunneriusson explained the background of the proposal. A general discussion whether agricultural tractors are equipped at all with remote controls of the coupling devices took place. At the end, no common opinion of the application of the definition "automatic coupling" could be found. TFAC therefore came to the conclusion that an incorporation of "agricultural couplings" into R 55 is very difficult and therefore decided that a separate document shall be favored. As it seems too time consuming, a new UNECE Regulation should not be developed. Instead, the concept of R 13 and R 13-H should be followed, i. e. a document R 55-A (A = Agricultural) which covers exclusively coupling devices for vehicle categories T, R and S (according to R.E.3) shall be developed. In this document, appropriate requirements for remote controls can be included. Mr Schauer is asked to clarify the proceeding and propose a concept.

TFAC noted that this approach exceeds the ToR and RoP of IWG R 55 and probably an own IWG is necessary. This shall be clarified until the next GRRF. An informal document containing this information could be prepared for the next GRRF (15 to 18 September 2015).

3.3 Italian proposals and comments (TFAC 04-09, TFAC 05-02e, TFAC 05-03e)

The proposals contained in TFAC 05-02e and TFAC 05-03e have been discussed and will be considered in the next working document.

3.4 Static test permissible under which conditions?

After a thoroughly discussion where all the arguments already discussed in the meetings before have been newly exchanged, consensus on the following compromise was found:

"Instead of the dynamic test as described in Annex 9, mechanical couplings of classes i, q and r intended to be mounted to agricultural vehicles with a maximum design speed not exceeding 40 km/h may be tested according to ... (static test)."

Additionally it was agreed that a physical strength test for drawbars of towed vehicles (R and S) may be waived and replaced by a theoretical check also when the maximum design speed exceeds 40 km/h.

4. Further steps

The actual status will be reported during the next IWG R 55 meeting in Gothenburg on 2015-06-26.

5. Any other business

5.1 Next meeting

The 6th meeting will be held on 2015-09-08 if need be. A location was not yet determined.

Remark: As the date 2015-09-08 is already occupied, the meeting should be held on **2015-09-10**.

Mr Schauer closed the meeting at approx. 17:00 hrs.