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*Federale Overheidsdienst
Mobiliteit en Vervoer
Wegvervoer en Verkeersveiligheid*

Amendment driverless vehicles

Convention on Road Traffic 1968

19-03-2015

WP1 approach

Two steps:

- Semi-autonomous = systems taking over some of the driving tasks;
- Fully autonomous = systems taking over all the driving tasks for parts of or for the whole journey.



Step 1 – Semi-autonomous

- Amendment adopted by WP1 in March 2014 (expected to be in force mid 2016);
- - 5bis. Vehicle systems which influence the way vehicles are driven shall be deemed to be in conformity with paragraph 5 of this Article and with paragraph 1 of Article 13, when they are in conformity with the conditions of construction, fitting and utilization according to international legal instruments concerning wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or be used on wheeled vehicles.
- Vehicle systems which influence the way vehicles are driven and are not in conformity with the aforementioned conditions of construction, fitting and utilization, shall be deemed to be in conformity with paragraph 5 of this Article and with paragraph 1 of Article 13, when such systems can be overridden or switched off by the driver.
- **Meaning: Those systems are in conformity with the principle that the driver shall at all times be able to control his vehicle.**
- **Important: the presence of a person as a driver, who can take over the control, is still necessary. The driver shall at all times minimize any activity other than driving.**

Step 2 – Fully autonomous

- **Logic = DAS taking over full control = driver;**
- Article 1, (v) "driver" means any person who drives or a vehicle system which has the full control over the vehicle and is in conformity with the conditions of construction, fitting and utilization according to international legal instruments concerning wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or be used on wheeled vehicles, driving a motor vehicle or other vehicle (including a cycle), or who guides cattle, singly or in herds, or flocks, or draught, pack or saddle animals on a road.";
- **5ter** When vehicles are driven by a vehicle system taking over all of the driving tasks of the driver, as mentioned in article 1, (v), the paragraphs 3, & 4 & 6 of this Article do not apply.
- **Meaning:** Those systems are considered as the driver and do have to comply to all the obligations which do apply for physical drivers, except of course for some specific "human" requirements (ex. being physically and mental fit & possessing knowledge and skills).
- **Important:** With full automation systems who will take over all the driving tasks, the presence of a person as a driver, is – during the period that the DAS takes over all driving tasks - no longer needed. When this type of DAS takes over the driving, the physical person on the drivers seat is no longer considered as the driver and is allowed during the time the DAS is driving the vehicle to do other things than driving.

Step 2 – fully autonomous

- At starting point;
- Not more than a first proposal for amendment (to start the discussion);
- Still has to be discussed in depth within WP1.

Thanks for your
attention!

