

ECE GRRF

Task Force R 55 Agricultural Couplings

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Invitation to the first meeting of the Task Force R 55 Agricultural Couplings to be held in Essen/Germany on 2013-05-15 and 16

Dear Colleagues,

On 2012-06-21, an Informal Group within ECE GRRF for updating and amending the existing ECE R 55 was founded under the leadership of Jürgen Westphäling, TÜV Automotive. During that first meeting, it was agreed to also include provisions for mechanical couplings used in agricultural vehicles. As this topic was seen as complex, it was agreed to deal with this in a Task Force Group and I was asked to take care.

In the years 2008 to 2011, a group of German experts from KBA, Technical Services and Manufacturers had developed a proposal for a new "ECE R 55 Agriculture". It was agreed within the Informal Group to take this proposal as a basis. It has been translated into English and was distributed to the Informal Group for review and comment. As no written comments have been given to-date, I did not yet call for a meeting. After internal discussion in Germany, we see a need to proceed as the new Type Approval Regulation 167/2013 is in force in the meantime and all existing Separate Directives will disappear after 2014-01-01. Therefore it would be desirable to have an amendment of R 55 to cover all mechanical couplings for agricultural vehicles.

Attached is the proposal, status September 2012 and a template for submitting comments. This template has been proven very helpful especially when large documents have to be handled. I therefore would like to invite you to send me any comments of technical or editorial nature and proposals for amended wordings **by 2013-05-06** at the latest. I will match them and send the summary back to you prior to the meeting of the Task Force Group. Please note that we will mainly discuss comments which have been submitted in writing prior to the meeting.

The meeting will take place:

Wednesday, 15 and Thursday, 16 May 2013
TÜV NORD - IFM
Adlerstraße 7
D-45307 Essen
Beginning 15 May: 10:00 hrs
End 16 May: 16:00 hrs

Near to the meeting location is the following hotel:

www.alte-lohnhalle.de

Downtown Essen, you may choose the following hotels:

<http://www.moevenpick-hotels.com/de/europe/germany/essen/hotel-essen/uebersicht/>
<http://www.accorhotels.com/de/hotel-1444-ibis-essen-hauptbahnhof/index.shtml>
<http://www.essener-hof.com/>

Please book your room directly in your preferred hotel as soon as possible as we did not block a room allocation.

The following draft agenda is scheduled:

1. Opening
2. Roll call of the participants
3. Time planning – target date for completion of the draft, meetings needed
4. Review of comments received
5. Further steps
6. Any other business

Please confirm your participation to verkehr@vdma.org.

Looking forward to seeing you in Essen.

Best regards,

