GCU JOINT COMMITTEE

19th December 2022

2ND EXTENSION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS REGARDING HOLDING FORCE AND HIGH VOLTAGE WARNING MARKINGS

SITUATION

We refer to our letters dated 1st March, 5th May and 15th December 2021 (attached hereto) and the recommendations contained therein which have been followed by the signatories of the GCU and have helped to avoid unnecessary disturbances of rail freight traffic during the course of the past two years.

As explained below, not all underlying issues could be agreed and resolved yet for the GCU version which will enter into force on 1st of January 2023. Further discussions will take place in 2023 in order to close the open points.

HOLDING FORCE MARKINGS

Amendments to the TSI WAG (2013/321) shall be published during the first quarter of 2023. In parallel, the revision of the EN 15877-1 shall come to an end during the second or third quarter 2023. The impact on the existing fleet and a decision on the way forward in Appendix 11 GCU will be analysed during 2023.

RECOMMENDATION: In view of the ongoing clarification process wagons with missing markings indicating the holding force in kN until 1st January 2024 should be treated as recommended in our letter dated 1st March 2021, which means to apply Model M.

HIGH VOLTAGE WARNING SIGNS

An agreement in Appendix 9 on appropriate actions to be taken in case high voltage signs would be missing could not be reached for the 2023 version of the GCU either. Discussions for finding a consensus will therefore continue in 2023 for introduction in 2024.

RECOMMENDATION: In view of the ongoing clarification process wagons without ladders and steps and with missing or incomplete high voltage warning markings should be treated as recommended in our letter dated 5th May 2021 until 1st January 2024, which means to apply Model M and refer to damage code 6.1.1.12.
Regarding wagons with ladders and steps we keep the recommendation described in the letter dated 5th May 2021 for the whole year of 2023, which means to apply Label K if one sign is missing and detach the wagon if both signs are missing. The appropriate damage code in the damage protocol in these cases is 6.1.1.10.

If there are any queries about the correct application of these recommendations in practice, please address them directly to the GCU Bureau: gcu@gcubureau.org.

Kind regards,

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UIP

Nicolas Czernecki
Co-Chairman
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Attachments:

- GCU JC recommendation letters of 1st March, 5th May and 15th December 2021