Briefing Note



GMGN2688 issue three Application of the WAG NTSN and NOI NTSN to the Design of Freight Wagons

Background

Newly built, upgraded or renewed freight wagons intended for use in Great Britain (GB) have to meet mandatory requirements for interoperability set out in the Rolling Stock – Freight Wagons National Technical Specification Notice (WAG NTSN) and Rolling Stock - Noise National Technical Specification Notice (NOI NTSN). The NOI NTSN also includes requirements that apply to existing freight wagons, for operation on quieter routes. Specific cases in both documents permit the application of National Technical Rules (NTRs). There is significant return on experience available to support the development of freight wagons that are suitable for operation on the GB mainline railway and compliant with the requirements set out in these documents.

What is it about?

GMGN2688 gives guidance on the technical subject areas of the WAG and NOI NTSNs to help the user understand and apply their requirements. GMGN2688 also highlights specific cases that permit the user to apply NTRs.

The nature of the guidance depends on the topic but can cover assistance in the interpretation of the NTSN text, application of referenced European standards (ENs), supplementary guidance or design considerations, relevant guidance or requirements in other RSSB standards publications, and information on historical design solutions to support compatibility with existing vehicles.

What has changed?

GMGN2688 has been revised to reflect the WAG NTSN published on 1 January 2021, replacing the WAG Technical Specification for Interoperability (WAG TSI), following the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union.

Changes to ENs and RSSB standards since publication of GMGN2688 issue two have been reflected in the document's contents.

Previously, separate sections on design guidance and the requirements of the WAG TSI have been combined to locate all content on a particular subject together. Additional content has been added on the requirements of the NOI NTSN as they relate to freight wagons.

What are the benefits?

The guidance note will help industry to comply with the legislative requirements set out in the WAG and NOI NTSNs. This will help facilitate a smooth authorisation process and support the development of wagon designs that are appropriate for operation on the GB mainline railway.

Who is it for?

Anyone involved in the design, development, manufacture, modification, assessment or authorisation of freight wagons for operation on the GB mainline railway.