



GCU JOINT COMMITTEE

5th May 2021

RECOMMENDATION ON THE SCOPE OF APPLICATION OF THE ADDITIONAL WORDING IN APPENDIX 11 POINT 8.1 ON WARNING SIGNS

SITUATION





Following our letter dated 1st of March 2021, we inform you about the results of the dedicated working group with representatives of the three associations. The task of the working group was to define the scope of application of the additional wording in Appendix 11, point 8.1, on high voltage warning signs referring to wagons without steps or ladders “whose design enables them to be climbed”.


RESULTS

The agreement reached within the dedicated working group can be summarised as follows:

- The pictograms are intended to warn employees in railway operations and unauthorized third parties about the risks of high voltage when climbing on the wagon.
- Wagons whose structure enables them to be climbed fulfil the following two criteria:
 1. the outside of the end walls has horizontal elements with a maximum vertical distance between each other of 45 cm.
 2. These elements must be at least 5 cm in depth or allow ladder like climbing

The basis for defining those criteria was the railway standard EN 12561-7 Railway applications - Tank wagons - Part 7: Working platforms and ladders. These two criteria are often fulfilled, for example, for the wagon series T*, U* or Z*.

- A clear distinction between the two pictograms of Appendix 11 point 8.1 must be introduced to clarify the use of those pictograms in combination to each other:
 - Wagons with ladders and steps must be marked with both pictograms (8.1 “lightning flash”  and 8.2 “Stop!” ).
 - Wagons without step or ladder whose structure enables them to be climbed, meeting the above-mentioned criteria must only be marked with the pictogram 8.2 “Stop!”  but not the pictogram 8.1 “lightning flash” .

RECOMMENDATION: Until the corresponding amendment proposals attached to this letter are implemented in the 2022 version of the GCU, only wagons without ladder or step with horizontal elements spaced vertically at a maximum of 45 cm and with a depth of at least 5 cm and not carrying the warning sign (“Stop!” ) for high voltage should be labelled with Model M.

The keeper should be notified using the new damage code 6.1.1.12 (as suggested in the attachment to this letter).

With this letter we call on all signatories to apply the above recommendation to handle missing or wrong markings of warning signs on wagons without ladder or step. If there are any queries about the correct application of this recommendation in practice, please address them directly to the GCU Bureau: gcu@gcubureau.org.

Kind regards,



Stefan Lohmeyer
Co-Chairman
GCU Joint Committee
UIP



Nicolas Czernecki
Co-Chairman
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UIC

Attachments:

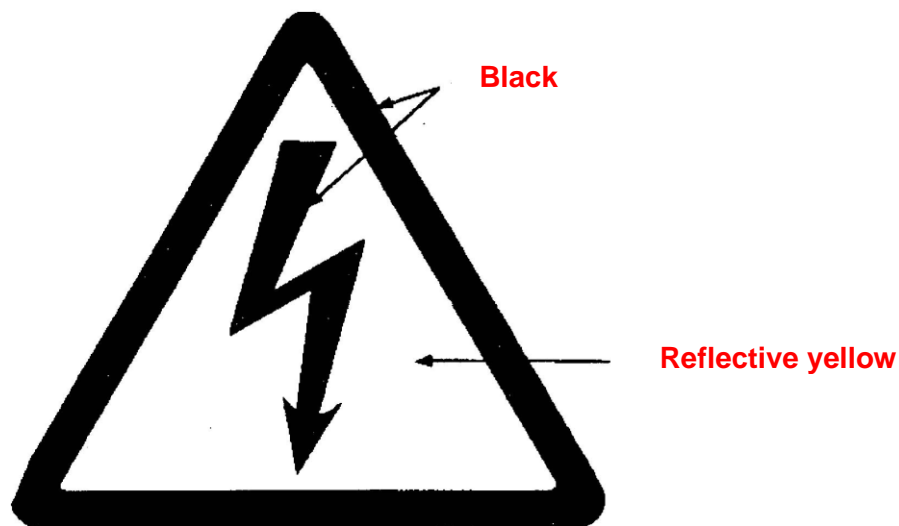
- Amended APPENDIX 11 GCU, Point 8.1 and 8.2 Signs for high voltage warning sign
- Amended APPENDIX 9 GCU, ANNEX 1, Code 6.1.1 Markings on wagons

For communication with the keeper the railway undertaking should use the codes as follows:
Extract from GCU Appendix 9 Annex 1, version 1st of March 2021

Component	Code no.	Irregularities/Criteria/Notes	Action to be taken	Irregularity class
Wagon body	6			
Wagon body in general Markings on wagons	6.1			
	6.1.1	Missing, illegible or incomplete until 1 st January 2022: use this code and mention "TEN-RIV" in the "Additional Remarks" field	M	3
	6.1.1.5	braked weight of hand brake ⁷ until 1 st January 2022: holding force of screw brake in kN	Detach wagon M	4 3
	6.1.1.10	"high voltage" warning sign (lightning flash) on wagons with step or ladder access up to a height > 2 m above rail level - both signs missing - one sign missing	Detach wagon K	4 4
6.1.1.12	"high voltage" warning sign ("Stop!") on wagons with horizontal elements spaced at a maximum of 45 cm and with a depth of at least 5 cm	Rectify, if not possible, M	3	

Clarification use of both pictograms and explanations on wagons without step or ladder “whose design enables them to be climbed”, Extract from GCU Appendix 11 Point 8.1 version 2021

8.1 Signs for high voltage warning sign (lightning flash)



Position: On wagons fitted with steps or ladders, in the immediate vicinity of these fittings and at a height such that the sign is visible before the danger zone is reached. For use on wagons where the top step or upper part of the ladder is more than 2000 mm above rail level.

Meaning: Warning against high voltage. Stop! You are entering a particularly dangerous area. Only duly authorised personnel may work in this area having first taken the necessary precautions.

N.B.: The size of the sign will depend on where it is to be placed.

Clarification use of both pictograms and explanations on wagons without step or ladder “whose design enables them to be climbed”, Extract from GCU Appendix 11 Point 8.1 version 2021

8.2 Signs for high voltage warning sign (Stop!)



Position: On wagons with steps or ladders, in the immediate vicinity of these fittings and at a height such that the sign is visible before the danger zone is reached. For use on wagons where the top step or upper part of the ladder is more than 2.0 m above rail level, or whose design enables them to be climbed. This pictogram may be shown on a rectangular blue background measuring 400 mm x 220 mm.

Meaning: Warning - high voltage. Stop! You are entering a particularly dangerous area. Only duly authorised personnel may work in this area having first taken the necessary precautions.

Remark: This marking is mandatory as of 1/1/2021.

Explanation: This pictogram is intended to warn inspection personnel and unauthorized third parties of the risk of high voltage on the wagon.

Wagons whose design enables them to be climbed fulfil two criteria:

1. The external part of the end walls is fitted with horizontal elements with a maximum vertical distance of 45 cm.
2. These elements must be at least 5 cm in depth or must be comparable to steps of a ladder.

If both criteria are fulfilled, the pictogram in 8.2, “Signs for high voltage warning sign (Stop!)” must be affixed, but the pictogram in 8.1, “Sign for high voltage warning sign (lightning flash)” is not required.

Both warning pictograms (8.1 and 8.2) must be affixed on wagons equipped with ladders and steps.