

Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code maintenance project 2021

Update on progress so far

We've made progress on the review and have identified several amendments that will inform the update from ADG 7.7 to ADG 7.8. A marked-up draft of amendments to date is now available on our website.

You'll have a chance to review a more refined draft version later in the year. However, we have some specific issues we'd like your advice on now.

Read this update to learn more about how to provide feedback on:

- the proposed fixed cycle for future amendments
- table 1.1.1.2 in Part 1
- the draft code, if you have time.

Window for comments closes on Friday 21 May 2021.



Background and context

We're pleased to provide this first update on the Australian Dangerous Goods Code (ADG Code) maintenance project.

As a first step, we've undertaken a full comparison of:

- the current edition of the Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road & Rail (ADG 7.7), *against*
- the United Nations (UN) Model Recommendations (UN21).

The purpose of this comparison was to identify how the ADG Code varies from the UN Model Recommendations. Differences identified during this comparison have been allocated into the following two categories.

Historical errors or differences resulting from incorrect or incomplete adoption of past UN amendments

Variations relating to incorrect or incomplete adoption of past UN amendments will be addresses as part of the current ADG Code maintenance project.

This update relates only to the work we're doing in the maintenance project.

Substantial Australian and land mode specific variations

The substantial Australian and land mode specific variations will be examined as part of a comprehensive review of the ADG Code endorsed by Transport Ministers in November 2020.

Further information on this review can be found in the NTC publication [A review of the legal framework to improve the land transport of dangerous goods advice paper August 2020](#).

The review project is expected to commence in May 2021. Detailed information will be available on the NTC website at that time.

What's happened so far?

The first meeting of the Transport of Dangerous Goods – Maintenance Advisory Group (TDG-MAG) was on Thursday 25 March 2021. Proposed amendments to the ADG Code were discussed, including:

- adoption of updates in UN 22
- correction of historical errors of past UN amendments
- incorporation of a CAP determination relating to bundles of cylinders
- proposal to correct an anomaly relating to Table 1.1.1.2
- consolidation of defined terms into a single list
- correction of other typographical and formatting errors.

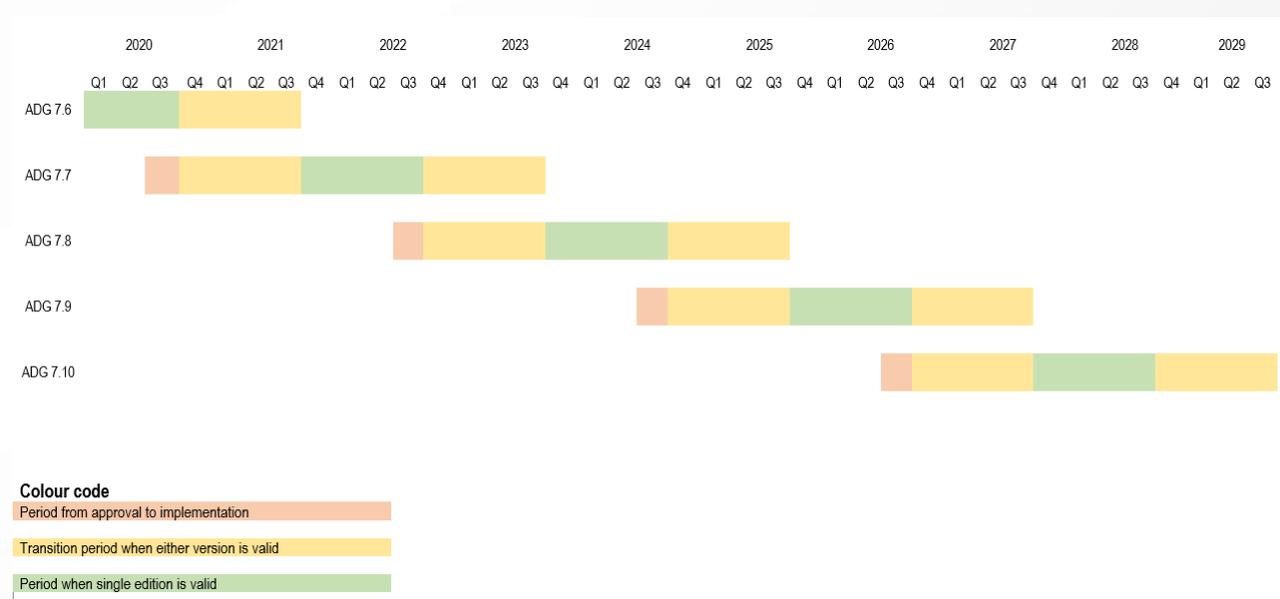
A first draft of ADGC 7.8 with ‘tracked changes’ in Word is now available for review and comment.

An update on the fixed cycle

As part of the work endorsed by Transport Ministers in November 2020, the NTC committed to introducing a fixed cycle for future ADG Code biennial amendment packages.

Following consultations with regulatory and industry stakeholders, a 1 October commencement date is proposed. This date provides states and territories the time needed to progress their necessary legislative amendments while also presenting the least disruption to the transport industry.

A representation of the fixed cycle for future amendment is included for your review and comment.



How to participate

You're welcome to email us directly, via dkirk@ntc.gov.au, or [provide a submission on our website](#). Read on for more details about the type of advice we're seeking.

Provide feedback on the proposed fixed cycle for future amendments

Share your thoughts on our new proposed cycle – outlined on page 3 of this document.

Provide feedback on table 1.1.1.2 in Part 1

We would like your advice on how to resolve an issue we've identified with table 1.1.1.2 in Part 1. Please read our suggested approaches here:

- [Issue resolution proposal Issue ID S2004-8](#).

Provide feedback on the draft code

If you have time, we also welcome comments and feedback on the early draft, but you will also have more opportunities to do this later in the year. Please provide the clause number when providing feedback.

Accessing the draft code

Due to the size of the document, we needed to break the larger code down into sections. Follow the links below to download each section:

- [Draft ADG Code – Part 1](#)
- [Draft ADG Code – Part 2](#)
- [Draft ADG Code – Part 3](#)
- [Draft ADG Code – Parts 4-13](#).

Next steps

There are still a number of refinements and unresolved matters that we're working through. These are noted in comments throughout the document.

Additionally, the UN is still finalising provisions relating to the introduction of Fibre Reinforced Plastics Portable Tanks. These provisions will be incorporated into the ADG Code once the UN have finalised the wording.

The NTC will continue to progress the outstanding matters and incorporate additional UN amendments. A second meeting of the TDG-MAG will be held in late June 2021 to discuss the additional proposed amendments. A final draft of ADG 7.8 will be available for public comment in November 2021.