

Statutory Document No. 156/03



THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1985

**The Road Vehicles (Roadworthiness Requirements)
(Approved Documents) Order 2003**

Coming into operation: 6th March 2003

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Department of Transport by paragraph 2A of Schedule 2 to the Road Traffic Act 1985¹, and of all other enabling powers, the following Order is hereby made.

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Road Vehicles (Roadworthiness Requirements) (Approved Documents) Order 2003 and shall come into operation on 6th March 2003.

Revocation

2. The Road Vehicles (Roadworthiness Requirements) (Approved Documents) Order 2001² is hereby revoked.

Interpretation

3. (1) In this Order, -

"the 1989 Regulations" means the Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989³, as they have effect in the Island by virtue of the Road Vehicles Lighting (Application) Regulations 1998⁴;

¹ 1985 c. 23

² SD 236/01

³ SI 1989/1796

⁴ SD 347/98

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"the 2002 Regulations" means the Road Vehicles (Maintenance and Use) Regulations 2002⁵;

"the Bus Regulations" means the Buses (Carriage of Passengers for Hire or Reward) (Construction and Use) Regulations 2001⁶;

"the Approved Documents" means the documents specified in the Schedule, being documents published on behalf of the Vehicle Inspectorate Executive Agency, the Department of Transport, the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, or the Department for Transport in Great Britain for the purpose of -

- (a) inspecting motor vehicles and trailers with respect to their condition and roadworthiness, or
- (b) providing advice to users or operators of such vehicles with respect to such matters; and

"angles of visibility", "daytime hours", "direction indicator", "headlamp", "main beam", "motor bicycle combination", "rear registration plate lamp", "rear retro reflector", and "stop lamp" have the meanings given to those expressions in Regulation 3(2) of the 1989 Regulations.

(2) Other expressions which are used in this Order and are defined in the 2002 Regulations have the same meanings in this Order as they have in those Regulations.

(3) A reference in an Approved Document to a statutory provision having effect in Great Britain shall be construed as a reference to a statutory provision having like effect in the Island.

Approval of documents

4. (1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the Department of Transport approves the relevant parts of the Approved Documents for the purposes of providing guidance with respect to the requirements of -

- (a) the 1989 Regulations;
- (b) the 2002 Regulations; and
- (c) the Bus Regulations.

(2) The Approved Documents shall be construed as not applying to a vehicle constructed -

⁵ SD 673/02

⁶ SD 100/01

- (a) before 1st January 1906;
- (b) before 1st January 1931 in so far as the documents relate to bells, gongs, horns or sirens;
- (c) before 1st January 1934 in so far as the documents relate to rear registration plate lamps;
- (d) before 1st January 1941 in so far as the documents relate to the position or angles of visibility of a lamp;
- (e) before 1st January 1951 in so far as the documents relate to -

- (i) mascots, emblems or other ornamental objects,
- (ii) rear retro reflectors or stop lamps,
- (iii) direction indicators fitted to a motor vehicle, not being a motor bicycle or motor bicycle combination, or
- (iv) the electrical connections of main beam headlamps; or

- (f) before 1st January 1951, being a vehicle -
 - (i) fitted with lamps not electrically operated, and
 - (ii) being used on a road during daytime hours,

in so far as the documents relate to requirements of the 1989 Regulations.

(3) The Approved Documents shall also be construed as providing that -

- (a) in the case of a tyre which must have the grooves of the tread pattern at least 1.6 mm deep throughout a continuous band comprising the central three-quarters of the breadth of tread and encompassing the entire outer circumference of the tyre, there shall be visible tread across the remaining quarter of the breadth of tread around the entire outer circumference of the tyre; and
- (b) in the case of a portable fire extinguisher carried by a vehicle in accordance with the Bus Regulations, the fire extinguisher shall be of a type which -
 - (i) complies in all respects with the specification for portable fire extinguishers issued by the British Standards Institution and numbered BSEN 3: 1996,

- (ii) has a minimum test fire rating of 5A or 34B,
- (iii) contains water or foam, and
- (iv) is clearly marked with the British Standards Institution specification number.

(4) For the purpose specified in paragraph (1)(a), the relevant parts of the Approved Documents are -

- (a) as respects Part II of the 1989 Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the fitting of lamps, reflectors, rear markings and related devices; and
- (b) as respects Part III of the 1989 Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the maintenance and use of lamps, reflectors, rear markings and related devices.

(5) For the purpose specified in paragraph (1)(b), the relevant parts of the Approved Documents are -

- (a) as respects Regulation 6 of the 2002 Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the braking system, steering gear, tracks, and windscreen washers and wipers of the class of vehicle in question;
- (b) as respects Regulation 8 of the 2002 Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the glass or other transparent material of the class of vehicle in question;
- (c) as respects Regulation 9 of the 2002 Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the class of vehicle in question with respect to rear-view mirrors;
- (d) as respects Regulation 11 of the 2002 Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the class of vehicle in question with respect to seat belts, seat-belt anchorage points, related fitments and all load-bearing members of the vehicle structure or panelling within 30 centimetres of an anchorage point;
- (e) as respects Regulation 12 of the 2002 Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the compensating arrangement for wheel loads, containment devices, fuel tank, rear under-run protective device, sideguards, spray-suppression system, springs and resilient material, and wings of the class of vehicle in question;
- (f) as respects Regulation 13 of the 2002 Regulations, such parts of the Approved

Documents as relate to the exhaust system and silencer of the class of vehicle in question.

- (g) as respects Regulations 14 and 15 of the 2002 Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the class of vehicle in question;
- (h) as respects Regulation 17 of the 2002 Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the class of vehicle in question with respect to the marking of silencers;
- (i) as respects Regulations 19, 21, 22 and 23 of the 2002 Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the class of vehicle in question with respect to audible warning devices;
- (j) as respects Regulation 24 of the 2002 Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the smoke, toxic gases or other pollutants emitted by the class of vehicle in question;
- (k) as respects Regulations 27 to 30 and 32 of the 2002 Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the condition, tyre tread depth and pattern, tyre loads, mixing and recutting of the tyres of the class of vehicle in question;
- (l) as respects Regulation 50 of the 2002 Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to seat-belt anchorage points and to the fitting, retro-fitting and condition of seat belts in the class of vehicle in question in connection with the carrying of children on organised trips; and
- (m) as respects Regulation 73 of the 2002 Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the class of vehicle in question with respect to a plate containing a vehicle identification number or other information.

(6) For the purpose specified in paragraph (1)(c), the relevant parts of the Approved Documents are -

- (a) as respects Regulation 37 of the Bus Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the condition of the bodywork, upholstery and fittings of the class of vehicle in question;
- (b) as respects Regulations 38 and 39 of the Bus Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the carrying of portable fire extinguishers and first-aid equipment in the class of vehicle in question; and
- (c) as respects Regulation 42 of the Bus Regulations, such parts of the Approved Documents as relate to the maintenance of the body, windows, fittings and passenger seats of the class of vehicle in question.

Articles 3 and 4

SCHEDULE

APPROVED DOCUMENTS

Title	ISBN
The MOT Inspection Manual - Car and Light Commercial Vehicle Testing	0-11-551702-2
The MOT Inspection Manual - Motor Cycle Testing, 4th edition	0-11-552316-2
The MOT Inspection Manual - Private Bus Testing ⁷	-
Public Service Vehicle Inspection Manual	0-11-552030-9
Heavy Goods Vehicle Inspection Manual	0-11-551814-2
Code of Practice - Safety of Loads on Vehicles - Third Edition	0-11-550666-7
In-Service Exhaust Emission Standards for Road Vehicles - Eighth Edition	0-9526457-7-7
Minibus and Coach Seat Belts - Advice to Users & Operators of Minibuses and Coaches Carrying Children ⁸	-
Minibus and Coach Seat Belts - Advice on retro-fitting Seat Belts to Minibuses and Coaches ⁹	-

MADE *6th March* 2003



Minister for Transport

⁷ Published in March 1995

⁸ Published in December 1996

⁹ Published in December 1996

EXPLANATORY NOTE
(This Note is not part of the Order)

This Order prescribes a number of documents approved by the Department of Transport for the purpose of providing guidance with respect to certain requirements of the Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989 (*SI 1989/1796*), the Road Vehicles (Maintenance and Use) Regulations 2002 (*SD 673/02*), and the Buses (Carriage of Passengers for Hire or Reward) (Construction and Use) Regulations 2001 (*SD 100/01*).

The documents are referred to in the Schedule to the Order and are available for public inspection at Tynwald Library in Douglas.