



Commercial Vehicle Roadworthiness reform programme

Bus & Coach Show 2012

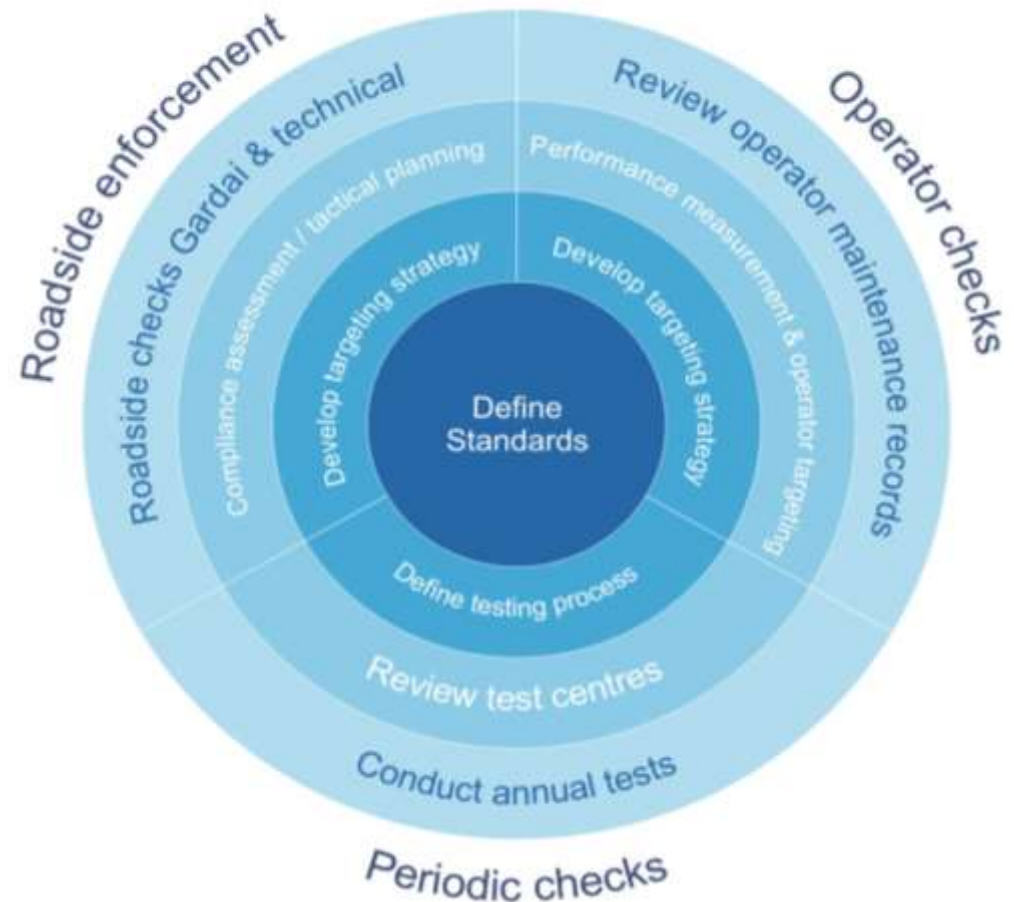
Objectives of the Commercial Vehicle Roadworthiness programme



- Reforms to commercial vehicle roadworthiness testing, operator compliance and enforcement.

Aims to:

- develop a leading edge commercial vehicle safety regime
- build upon the experience of other European jurisdictions
- use technology to enhance the 'joined up' aspects of government
- contribute to Ireland's improving road safety record over the next 10 years and beyond.



The need for reform is clear



- Current roadworthiness standards are unacceptable:
 - 2011: Roadworthiness checks were completed on 4,919 vehicles. Of these, 2,312 (48%) of vehicles had defects with 32% having defects serious enough to warrant immediate action, such as impoundment, repair on site or a new test.
 - 2011: VOSA statistics from Great Britain enforcement inspections show even higher rates of non-compliance with 6,975 Irish registered vehicles stopped during 2011. Of these, 3,988 had infringements that resulted in immediate or delayed prohibitions (representing 57%).
- Improved road safety:
 - reducing deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents involving commercial vehicles.
- Reduced costs to the economy:
 - during 2010 An Garda Siochana and the RSA estimate that collisions cost the State €853 million.
- Current testing compliance is unacceptable:
 - Of 1,000 randomly sampled vehicles 5 years old, only 70% of annual tests were conducted (i.e. 3,500 out of 5,000).

What are the benefits for Operators?

➤ Enhancing fair market competition:

- Enforcement efforts will be targeted towards those who choose not to properly maintain & test their fleet annually
- Applies to all commercial vehicles operating on Ireland's roads (licensed and non licensed)
- Introduction of an escalating range of sanctions

➤ Business efficiencies:

- No need to visit the Motor Tax Office for the purpose of collecting the CRW (will be dispatched by post automatically following the CVT)
- Enhanced vehicle roadworthiness reduces breakdowns and improves fuel efficiency

➤ Commercial benefits:

- Enhanced reputation nationally and internationally
- Evidence of compliance of roadworthiness can be used to commercial advantage

It is your responsibility to keep your vehicle in a roadworthy condition at all times



Key obligations are simple:

1. Test your vehicle annually
2. Keep your vehicle in safe order and well maintained
3. Make an on-line self-declaration to the RSA:
 - Fleet details
 - Commit to ongoing safety inspections and maintenance
 - Commit to record keeping

A balanced approach to driving improvements



- Escalation process in terms of enforcement:
- Focus on education & awareness initially
- Issues dealt with on a case by case basis;
- Important obligations required of operators, drivers and test centres

What will change for commercial vehicle operators and drivers?



- The CRW will now include an insert for the windscreen
- Following the Annual Vehicle Test, the CRW will be dispatched by post (eliminating the need for the second visit to the Motor Tax office for that purpose)
- There will be a single fee (incorporating the test, the CRW and the road safety levy)
- Enforcement will be increased:
 - Roadside Checks (bi-lateral enforcement: An Garda Siochana and the RSA)
 - Risk-based targeting
 - Visits to operator premises for the purposes of assessing roadworthiness compliance
- Introduction of a new range of remedies to address non-compliance: may be applicable to the driver, the operator or the registered owner.

Other features of the reforms

- A new legislative framework has been introduced
 - The Road Safety Authority (Commercial Vehicle Roadworthiness) Act 2012
- The national network of commercial vehicle test centres will be supervised by the RSA, not the Local Authorities
- Vehicle tester training has been reformed
- Introduction of risk-based indicators – ‘Commercial Vehicle Operator Risk Indicator’ (CVORI)
 - Initially HGV and PSV only
 - Based on evidence (self-declaration, test history, encounter history, premises checks)
 - Time-bound (rolling 3 year indicator score)
 - Risk indicators increase to reflect non-compliances and decrease to reflect good performance
 - Industry sector element to be included
 - A tool to support targeted action e.g. education & awareness, roadside enforcement

2013 Communications with Operators

- First half of the year: raising awareness
 - Leaflets and posters
 - Media
 - Regional meetings
 - Information available on the RSA web-site
- First half of the year: operator premises visits to commence
- Later in 2013:
 - Introduction of the operator self-declaration process
 - Introduction of centrally dispatched CRWs