

Working To Save Lives



Circular RSA VI 06/09

25th May 2009.

To all Vehicle Testing Authorised Officers and Authorised HGV Test Centres

Wide Angle and Close Proximity Mirrors to be tested on Goods Vehicles over 7,500kg only

Following Circular RSA VI 04/09, this circular is to give notice to all vehicle testing authorised officers and authorised HGV Test Centres of further changes to the categories of vehicles subject to the mirror retrofitting requirements. The updated mirror page of the HGV manual has also been attached.

The RSA are seeking clarification on the retrofitting requirements for N2 category vehicles with a Design Gross Vehicle Weight (DGWV) exceeding 3,500kg and not exceeding 7,500kg. For now vehicles in this category i.e. exceeding 3,500kg and not exceeding 7,500kg will not be tested for either a wide angle (Class IV) or a close proximity (Class V) mirror. Further clarification on when the testing of these mirrors will become mandatory for N2 vehicles in this weight category will issue in due course. However, in the interim these vehicles will, as has been the case up to now, be tested for the presence of the main (Class II) mirror already mandatory on both the driver's and passenger's side in accordance with the procedure set out in the Roadworthiness Test manual.

It has also been brought to our attention that some Testers are using the RSA approved mirror checking tool on the close proximity (Class V) mirror. Please also note that on vehicles where the field of vision of the close proximity (Class V) mirror must be checked, it must be done using the painted area on the test centre floor and **NOT** using the RSA approved mirror checking tool. Some vehicles are high enough to have a 400mm radius close proximity (Class V) mirror fitted and still meet the requirements. Therefore the approved RSA mirror checking tool should only be used when testing the wide angle (Class IV) mirror per the procedure detailed in the attached updated mirror test page of the HGV manual.

If you have any queries in relation to this circular, please do not hesitate to contact Justin Martin at JustinMartin@rsa.ie or on 096-25109.

Yours Sincerely,

Seán Breathnach

Senior Vehicle Inspector