

Circular RSA VI 03/09

7th May 2009.

**To all Vehicle Testing Authorised Officers and Authorised HGV Test Centres**

**Driving Mirrors – Additional Requirements for Heavy Goods Vehicles**

Following Circular RSA VI 02/09 (and attachment), this circular is to give notice to all vehicle testing authorised officers and authorised HGV Test Centres that all vehicles of categories N<sub>2</sub> & N<sub>3</sub> exceeding 3,500kg first registered since 1st January 2000 must be fitted with both a wide angle (Class IV) and a close proximity (Class V) mirror on the passenger's side (near side) **only** to improve the driver's visibility of the area within a blind spot. These are in addition to the main (Class II) mirror already mandatory on both the driver's and passenger's side. This Directive has been transposed into Irish law in S.I. 312 of 2008 as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009 and must be included as a fail item in the HGV test from **May 18th 2009**.

Category N vehicles are motor vehicles with at least four wheels designed and constructed for the carriage of goods.

- Category N<sub>2</sub> vehicles are goods vehicles having a maximum mass exceeding 3.5 tonnes but not exceeding 12 tonnes.
- Category N<sub>3</sub> vehicles are goods vehicles having a maximum mass exceeding 12 tonnes.

***As stated previously, checking both the wide angle and close proximity mirrors will be part of the annual roadworthiness test for these vehicles from May 18<sup>th</sup> 2009.*** The purpose of this circular is to outline this implementation date. The RSA approved mirror checking tools are currently being distributed to all HGV Test Centres and should be used in accordance with the provisions laid out in the test specifications already circulated to the Vehicle Testing Network. Please note that only the approved RSA mirror checking tool should be used when testing these mirrors.

All HGV Test Centres should ensure that their test centre software is updated to allow for the recording of the test result for this item. The software update for ASC customers is currently available and the software update for DIGI Forecourt customers will be available before May 15<sup>th</sup> 2009. If you have any test centre software queries the relevant software supplier should be contacted.

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

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Seán Breathnach', written over a horizontal line.

Seán Breathnach