

Working To Save Lives



Circular RSA VI 07/09

21st July 2009.

To all Vehicle Testing Authorised Officers & Authorised HGV & LGV Test Centres

Roadworthiness Testing of Camper Vans and Motor Homes

Campers, camper vans, and motor homes are subject to roadworthiness testing under S.I. No. 771 of 2004, European Communities (Vehicle Testing) Regulations 2004. For vehicle testing purposes, these vehicles fall under the “goods vehicle” category which is defined in the SI as follows;

“goods vehicle” means a mechanically propelled vehicle, or an articulated vehicle, constructed or adapted primarily for the conveyance of goods or burden of any description whether or not the vehicle is used for such a purpose.

Issues arising during the testing of these vehicles include:

For all camper vans and motor homes

- Non-glass glazing: The owner / presenter of the vehicle must produce a certificate or documentation from the manufacturer or glazing installer stating that the glazing material is not likely, if fractured, to produce fragments capable of causing severe cuts. A copy (not the original) of such documentation should be retained by the test centre.
- No stripping of any part of the vehicle is required prior to testing

For camper vans and motor homes over 3,500kgs

- Tachographs - if the owner of the vehicle completes a Tachograph Declaration Form, the vehicle should not be failed for not having a tachograph fitted, but if there is one fitted it must be calibrated if the speed limiter works through it.
- Speed limitation device - by law the vehicle must have a speedlimiter fitted if first registered since 1st October 2001 (non-diesel engined vehicles registered between 1st October and 31st December 2004 are exempt from this requirement).
- Reflective Conspicuity Markings – these vehicles require markings as per the current HGV Test Manual
- Plating – these vehicles should be plated as per all vehicles covered by the current HGV Test Manual
- Modifications - any of these vehicles that have had modifications that may have safety implications, shall have written approval as per item 12 in the introduction of the current HGV Testers Manual.

If there are any questions on this subject, please contact Bill Barry, Engineer at billbarry@rsa.ie or +353-91-872646.

Yours Sincerely,

Seán Breathnach
Senior Vehicle Inspector