

Circular RSA VI 05/10

31 August 2010

To all Vehicle Testing Authorised Officers and Authorised Test Centres

Periodic Roadworthiness Testing of Goods Vehicles

Goods Vehicles are subject to roadworthiness testing under S.I. No. 771 of 2004, European Communities (Vehicle Testing) Regulations, 2004.

In these Regulations a “goods vehicle” is defined as 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”.

The motor taxation class of a goods vehicle is not considered in Vehicle Testing Regulations and as a result has no bearing on the periodic roadworthiness testing obligations of a goods vehicle.

This means that all goods vehicles, whether taxed as private or commercial (including small vans), are legally required to undergo a periodic roadworthiness test at a Vehicle Test Network centre one year after first registration and every subsequent year thereafter on the anniversary of registration.

The NCT legislation, S.I. No. 567 of 2009, definition of “vehicle” does not include goods vehicles. NCT is for passenger vehicles, with a maximum of 8 seats (excluding the driver’s seat), only.

If there are any queries in relation to this subject, please contact Bill Barry, Engineer at billbarry@rsa.ie or +353-91-872600.

Yours Sincerely,

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

Seán Breathnach

Senior Vehicle Inspector