Technical bulletins (CoF)

1 Expiry dates recorded on identification label/plate and heavy vehicle specialist certificate (LT400)

2 OEM wheel rim options

3 Rear seatbelts as aisle obstructions in passenger service vehicles

Technical bulletin (CoF) 1 — Expiry dates recorded on identification label/plate and heavy vehicle specialist certificate (LT400)

Application

This technical bulletin applies to components with heavy vehicle specialist certification (LT400).

Clarification

Some heavy vehicle specialist certifiers (HVS certifiers) have been stipulating an expiry date on an identification label/plate and heavy vehicle specialist certificate (LT400) for items other than the ones where the relevant standard or code specifically allows or requires an expiry date.

In other cases, some CoF inspectors have been entering an expiry date on LANDATA, most frequently 10 years after the date of the LT400, even if the certificate does not contain such data.

Both of these situations cause avoidable difficulties to the operators, which is made even more obvious if a relevant standard (eg NZ5444) has changed.

Inspection

- CoF inspectors are not to enter any expiry date on LANDATA, even if an LT400 or identification label/plate contains one, unless the LT400 was issued either for a drawbar, drawbeam or towbar first certified after 1 August 1991, a towbar certified to NZS5467 or for a bolster attachment as per the *Bolster Attachment Code*.

  Where an expiry date has been entered on an identification label/plate or LANDATA for the specialist certification of items other than drawbars, drawbeams and towbars certified to NZS5446 after 1 August 1991, towbars certified to NZS5467 and bolster attachments, CoF inspectors must disregard it. In such cases, a lapsed expiry date is not a reason for rejection.

Technical bulletin (CoF) 2 OEM wheel rim options

Reference

Heavy vehicles, 10-1 Tyres and wheels

Safety concern

The fitting of non-approved wheel rims can cause component overloading.

Inspection

The fitting of different wheels to OEM requires heavy vehicle specialist certification unless they are approved by the vehicle manufacturer.

The following vehicle makes and models distributed by the Motor Industry Association of New Zealand and sold through its franchise dealer network have been confirmed as having optional OEM wheel rims.

Vehicles fitted with wheel rims meeting the specified requirements do no not require heavy vehicle specialist certification.

Motor Truck Distributors (NZ) Ltd advises that the heavy motor vehicle makes listed below that have 22.5 inch, disc wheel rims have the following OEM rim options for single tyred axles:

Make	Rim type	Rim brand name	Rim diameter	Rim width
Mack Truck	Steel	Mack	22.5″	8.25″ 9.00″ 11.75″
	Alloy	Alcoa		
Renault Truck	Steel	Renault		
	Alloy	Truck Speedline		
Volvo Bus and Volvo Truck	Steel	Volvo		
	Alloy	Alcoa		

The fitting of the above wheel rims does not alter the manufacture's original axle rating.

Technical bulletin (CoF) 3 — Rear seatbelts as aisle obstructions in passenger service vehicles

Vehicle inspection requirements manual references

This bulletin gives guidance to vehicle inspectors in applying the following requirements in the *VIRM: In-service certification (WoF and CoF) vol. 1*:

- Vehicle interior – 7-4 PSV Aisles.

Application

This document applies to people-mover vehicles, such as Toyota Previas, that are used as passenger service vehicles (PSVs) and have factory-fitted seats and seatbelts that comply with approved seat and seatbelt standards.

Safety concern

Practical tests have been carried out by the Low Volume Vehicle Technical Association (LVVTA) to investigate the concern that rear seatbelts fitted to Toyota Previa vehicles may obstruct passengers in the rear row of seats from exiting the vehicle in an emergency. Results show that seatbelts fitted in these types of vehicle may cause a minor nuisance but not an obstruction; passengers in the rear row of seats can still exit in a reasonable manner in emergency situations.

Inspection

Factory-fitted seatbelts in people-mover vehicles operated as PSVs should not be considered as obstructions to the aisle provided:

a) seats and seatbelts are original equipment fitted by the manufacturer, and

b) the seatbelt that crosses the aisle is of a retractable type, and

c) the seats, seatbelts and their installation are unmodified (other than minor trimming of the seatback width to achieve the required aisle width), and standards compliant if applicable.

This concession does not apply to:

- fold-down seats encroaching on aisle space
- vehicles that are retrofitted with additional and/or modified seat and seatbelt arrangements. Disconnecting or disabling seat rotation mechanisms is not considered to be a modification.

These vehicles must comply with all PSV requirements, such as aisle width.