

# Periodic roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers. 'Roadworthiness package'

2012/0184(COD) - 10/06/2013 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Transport and Tourism adopted the report by Werner KUHN (EPP, DE) on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on periodic roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers and repealing Directive 2009/40/EC.

The committee recommends that the European Parliament's position adopted at first reading, following the ordinary legislative procedure, should amend the Commission proposal as follows:

**Minimum requirements:** the **technical requirements and test methods** as laid down in the Annexes should be considered as EU minimum standards. The Member States should be allowed to maintain or introduce higher standards. Members suggest amendments aiming at strengthening that principle. The same applies to **qualification requirements to inspectors which should also be minimum ones**.

**Roadworthiness testing:** the definition should be clarified and adapted to the purpose of the periodic technical inspection test, which is to assess the correct functionality of the safety and environmental systems. The type-approval should only be a time-reference to understand what safety and environmental requirements relate to the vehicle. These requirements should not refer to the parts or components themselves.

Roadworthiness tests shall be carried out, in principle, **in the Member State in which the vehicle is registered** by the competent authority of that Member State or by a public body entrusted with the task by the State or by bodies or establishments certified and supervised by the State, including authorised private bodies. Members state that it is important that **test equipment manufactures** have access to data they need to develop properly functioning equipment.

**Frequency of tests:** Members propose that vehicles of category M1, N1 and O2: be tested **four years after the date on which the vehicle was first registered, and thereafter every two years**. Vehicles of category T5 (tractors with a maximum design speed exceeding 40km/h) used mainly on public roads: **one year after the date on which the vehicle was first registered, and thereafter annually**.

Members have also introduced a measure whereby mandatory periodic roadworthiness tests may be extended by Member States to other vehicle categories.

The proposal provides that in the case where a vehicle of categories M1 or N1 reaches a mileage of 160 000 km on the first roadworthiness test after the vehicle was first registered, it shall be subject to a roadworthiness test thereafter annually. Members consider that there is a **risk of odometers manipulation** linked to the proposed provision. Therefore, they propose to delete this provision.

**Historic cars:** historical cars should be exempted from the scope of EU legislation. According to the committee, the Member States should have **more discretion in setting their own national requirements to defining and testing those vehicles**. It suggests changing the definition to make it more flexible.

**Re-registration:** the vehicles holders should be allowed to rely on the valid roadworthiness test in case of reregistration. With a view to better application of the principle of free movement within the Union, the roadworthiness certificate issued in the original Member State of registration should be **mutually recognised** among Member States for the purpose of re-registration.

**Roadworthiness certificate:** a roadworthiness certificate shall also be available in **electronic format**. The Commission shall draw up a **standard European Union form** for roadworthiness tests. For the sake of document security and efficiency the report of the test should always be electronically and not demanded from the person presenting the vehicle for test, who often will not be the same as the owner of the vehicle. This should also apply as concerns the access of the enforcement authorities during roadside inspections.

**Testing facilities and equipment:** testing centres in which inspectors perform roadworthiness tests shall be authorised by a Member State or by its competent authority. Testing centres for roadworthiness tests, whether privately or publicly operated, must meet minimum requirements to ensure good quality management. They must be **objective and ensure a high quality of vehicle testing**.

**Inspectors:** Member States shall promote **adequate training** for inspectors in line with the qualification requirements. In order to enhance independency of inspectors it is necessary to ensure that the same person is not involved in both, repairing and maintain the vehicle before testing and testing itself. Another amendment clarifies the differing tasks of inspectors (identification of deficiencies) and repair workshops (performance of repairs to remedy the deficiencies). Each Member State shall ensure that testing centres in its territory are **supervised**.

**Administrative cooperation between Member States:** the Commission shall examine what is the most efficient and effective way of establishing an electronic vehicle information platform by taking advantage of **existing and already implemented IT solutions** with regard to international data exchange so as to minimize costs and to avoid duplications.

The examination shall consider the most appropriate way to **link the existing national systems** with a view to exchange information on data related to roadworthiness testing and odometer readings.

**Reporting on two- or three-wheel vehicles:** no later than three years from the date of publication of this Regulation, the Commission shall submit a report to the European Parliament and the Council on the inclusion of two- or three-wheel vehicles in the scope of this Regulation.

**Delegated acts:** the report proposes to limit to **5 years** the delegation of powers conferred on the Commission, whereas before it was an indeterminate period of time.