1968 No. 426

ROAD TRAFFIC

The Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1968

Made - - -	14*th March* 1968
Laid before Parliament	27*th March* 1968
Coming into Operation	8*th April* 1968

The Minister of Transport, in exercise of her powers under section 64(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1960(a), as amended by section 51 of and Schedule 4 to the Road Traffic Act 1962(b), and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with representative organisations in accordance with the provisions of section 260(2) of the said Act of 1960, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1.—(1) These Regulations shall come into operation on 8th April 1968 and may be cited as the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 1968.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(c) shall apply for the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2. The Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1966(d), as amended (e), shall have effect as though—

(1) in Regulation 7(1), for the figures and word "13 metres", there were substituted the figures and word "15 metres";

(2) for Regulation 19 there were substituted the following Regulations:—

"*Windscreen wipers*

19.—(1) The windscreen of every motor vehicle, which is so constructed that the driver cannot obtain an adequate view to the front of the vehicle without looking through the windscreen by opening the windscreen or otherwise, shall be fitted with one or more efficient automatic windscreen wipers.

(2) Subject to the next following paragraph the windscreen wipers required by the last preceding paragraph shall be capable of clearing the windscreen so that the driver has an adequate view of the road in front of the near and off sides of the vehicle in addition to an adequate view to the front of the vehicle.

(3) The last preceding paragraph shall apply in the case of vehicles registered on or after the 1st October 1969 on and after that date, and, in the case of vehicles registered before that date, on and after 1st October

(a) 8 & 9 Eliz. 2.c.16.
(b) 10 & 11 Eliz.2.c.59.
(c) 52 & 53 Vict. c.63.
(d) S.I. 1966/1288 (1966 III, p.3493).
(e) There is no relevant amending instrument.

1972, being in either case vehicles such as are described in paragraph (1) of this Regulation.

Windscreen Washers

19A.—(1) Subject to the following paragraph every motor vehicle, the windscreen of which is required to be fitted with one or more efficient automatic windscreen wipers by virtue of Regulation 19 of these Regulations or Regulation 46 of the Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness) Regulations 1958(**a**), as amended (**b**), shall be fitted with a windscreen washer capable of clearing, in conjunction with those windscreen wipers, the area of the windscreen swept by those windscreen wipers of mud or other similar deposit.

(2) This Regulation shall not apply to land tractors, vehicles which are incapable by reason of their construction of exceeding 20 miles per hour on the level under their own power or vehicles being used for the time being as stage carriages or on any journey incidental to such use and shall apply in respect of the vehicles specified in paragraph (3) of the last preceding regulation as from the dates specified therein in relation to those vehicles." ;

(3) For Regulation 58 (Overall length of Trailers) there were substituted the following Regulation:—

"Overall length

58.—(1) Save as provided in paragraph (2) of this Regulation, the overall length of a trailer shall not exceed 7 metres :

Provided that the said maximum length may be 12 metres in the case of a trailer which—

(*a*) has not less than 4 wheels and where the distance between the centres of the respective areas of contact with the road of the foremost and the rearmost wheels on the same side of the trailer is not less than three-fifths of its overall length ; and

(*b*) is drawn by a motor vehicle having an unladen weight of 2 tons or more.

(2) This Regulation shall not apply—

(*a*) to a trailer constructed and normally used for the conveyance of indivisible loads of exceptional length:

(*b*) to a land implement ;

(*c*) to a trailer forming part of an articulated vehicle ;

(*d*) to any broken down vehicle which is being drawn by a motor vehicle in consequence of the breakdown ;

(*e*) to a trailer which is a trolley vehicle in course of construction or delivery ; or

(*f*) to any trailer which is drying or mixing plant designed for the production of asphalt or of bituminous or tar macadam and used mainly for the construction, repair or maintenance of roads or which is a road planing machine used as aforesaid if, in any such case, the overall length of the trailer together with that of the motor vehicle by which it is drawn does not exceed 60 feet.

(3) For the purposes of this Regulation, the overall length of a trailer shall be treated as excluding any part of the trailer designed primarily for use as a means of attaching it to another vehicle and any fitting designed for use in connection with any such part." ;

(**a**) S.I. 1958/473 (1958 II, p.2014).

(**b**) There is no relevant amending instrument.

(4) in Regulation 106, after paragraph (2), there were inserted the following paragraph:—

"(2A) Where a motor vehicle is drawing two trailers only one such trailer may exceed 7 metres in overall length, and, where a motor vehicle is drawing three trailers, no trailer in the combination of vehicles shall exceed 7 metres in overall length.";

(5) in Regulation 109—

(*a*) in sub-paragraph (5)(*b*), after the word "road", there were inserted the words and figures "before 1st October 1968";

(*b*) after sub-paragraph (5)(*b*), there were inserted the following sub-paragraphs:—

"(*bb*) has a rearward projection exceeding 3 feet 6 inches in length but not exceeding 6 feet in length, shall be used on a road on or after 1st October 1968 unless the condition specified in paragraph 4 of the said Schedule has been complied with;

(*bbb*) has a rearward projection exceeding 6 feet in length but not exceeding 10 feet in length, shall be used on a road on or after 1st October 1968 unless the condition specified in paragraph 3 of the said Schedule has been complied with; or";

(*c*) in sub-paragraph (6)(*b*), after the figures and words "10 feet in length,", there were inserted the words and figures "before 1st October 1968,";

(*d*) after sub-paragraph (6)(*b*), there were inserted the following sub-paragraphs:—

"(*bb*) where the load has a rearward projection exceeding 3 feet 6 inches in length but not exceeding 6 feet in length, on or after 1st October 1968, unless the condition specified in paragraph 4 of the said Schedule has been complied with;

(*bbb*) where the load has a rearward projection exceeding 6 feet in length but not exceeding 10 feet in length, on or after 1st October 1968, unless the condition specified in paragraph 3 of the said Schedule has been complied with; and"; and

(*e*) after sub-paragraph 6(*c*), there were inserted the following sub-paragraph:—

"(*d*) on and after 1st July 1968 where the load is carried on an articulated vehicle not exceeding 15 metres in overall length and which is not constructed and normally used for the conveyance of indivisible loads of exceptional length where the overall length of the articulated vehicle together with any forward or rearward projections of the load exceeds 55 feet, unless the condition specified in paragraph 1 of the said Schedule has been complied with;"; and

(6) in Schedule 8, in Part I—

(*a*) in paragraph 3, after sub-paragraph (*g*), there were inserted the following proviso:—

"Provided that the conditions in sub-paragraph (*b*) so far as it relates to side projection surfaces in sub-paragraph (*d*) shall not apply by reason only that a vehicle has a special appliance or apparatus, or is carrying a load, which has a rearward projection exceeding 6 feet in length but not exceeding 10 feet in length."; and

(*b*) in paragraph 4, in the definition of "relevant projection", after the words "in sub-paragraph (*b*), there were inserted "or (*bb*)".

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Transport the 14th March 1968.

(L.S.)

Barbara Castle,
Minister of Transport.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations further amend the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1966 by—

1. increasing the maximum permitted overall length of articulated vehicles from 13 metres to 15 metres (Regulation 2(1));

2. varying the existing provision as to windscreen wipers so as to require the windscreens of all motor vehicles, with some exceptions, to be fitted with one or more efficient automatic windscreen wipers capable of clearing the windscreen so that the driver has an adequate view of the road to the front and in front of the near and off sides of the vehicle; and requiring all motor vehicles which are required to be fitted with automatic windscreen wipers, other than land tractors, certain slow moving vehicles and stage carriages, to be fitted with a windscreen washer capable of clearing, in conjuction with the windscreen wipers, the area of the windscreen swept by the windscreen wipers, of mud or other similar deposit; these requirements apply to vehicles registered on or after 1st October 1969 on and after that date and to those registered before that date on and after 1st October 1972 (Regulation 2(2));

3. increasing, subject to specified conditions, the maximum permitted overall length of draw-bar trailers from 7 metres to 12 metres (Regulation 2(3));

4. restricting the overall length of trailers when two or more are being drawn by a motor vehicle (Regulation 2(4));

5. requiring vehicles having projections to the rear or carrying loads which project to the rear of a vehicle which are more than 6 feet in length instead of 10 feet to indicate the projection by means of the marker board prescribed in paragraph 3 of Part I to Schedule 8, on and after 1st October 1968 (Regulation 2(5)(*a*) to (*d*) and 2(6)); and

6. requiring the police to be given advance notification of the movement of certain articulated vehicles not exceeding 15 metres in length where the overall length of the articulated vehicle and its load exceeds 55 feet, on and after 1st July 1968 (Regulation 2(5)(*e*)).