STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1977 No. 792

ROAD TRAFFIC

The Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 1977

Made - - -	4*th May* 1977
Laid before Parliament	13*th May* 1977
Coming into Operation	3*rd June* 1977

The Secretary of State for Transport in exercise of his powers under section 40(1) and (3) of the Road Traffic Act 1972(**a**) and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with representative organisations in accordance with the provisions of section 199(2) of that Act, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations shall come into operation on 3rd June 1977, and may be cited as the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 1977.

2. The Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1973(**b**), as amended(**c**), shall be further amended so as to have effect in accordance with the following provisions of these Regulations.

3. In Regulation 4 (Application and Exemptions), in paragraph (3), after "24" there shall be inserted "24A", and in paragraph (9) for "24 to 30 inclusive" there shall be substituted "24, 24A, 25 to 30 inclusive".

4. In Regulation 24 (Safety Glass)—

(1) in paragraph (1), after the words "on or after 1st January 1959" there shall be inserted the words "and not being motor vehicles to which Regulation 24A applies"; and

(2) after paragraph (2) there shall be inserted the following paragraph:—
"(3) In this Regulation "safety glass" has the same meaning as in Regulation 3.".

5. After Regulation 24 there shall be inserted the following Regulation:—

"24A.—(1) This Regulation applies to—

(*a*) every caravan manufactured on or after 1st December 1977 and first used on or after 1st September 1978, and

(*b*) every motor vehicle and every trailer, not being a caravan, manufactured on or after 1st December 1977 and first used on or after 1st June 1978.

(**a**) 1972 c. 20. (**b**) S.I. 1973/24 (1973 I, p. 93).
(**c**) The relevant amending Instrument is S.I. 1977/791 (1977 II, p. 2243).

(2) Save as provided in paragraphs (4), (5), (6), (7), and (8) of this Regulation, the windscreens and all other windows of every motor vehicle and trailer to which this Regulation applies shall comply with the requirements specified in paragraph (3) of this Regulation.

(3) The requirements referred to in paragraph (2) of this Regulation are as follows—

(*a*) the windscreens and all other windows which are wholly or partly in front of or on either side of any part of the driver's seat shall be constructed of specified safety glass;

(*b*) all windows other than those specified in sub-paragraph (*a*) above shall be constructed of either specified safety glass or safety glazing.

(4) The windscreens and all other windows of security vehicles shall not be subject to the requirements specified in paragraph (3) of this Regulation, but shall be constructed of either safety glass or safety glazing.

(5) The windscreens of motor cycles not equipped with an enclosed compartment for the driver or for a passenger, or both, shall not be subject to the requirements specified in sub-paragraph (*a*) of paragraph (3) of this Regulation, but shall be constructed of safety glazing.

(6) Any windscreens or other windows which are wholly or partly in front of or on either side of the driver's seat, and which are temporarily fitted to motor vehicles to replace any windscreens or other windows which have broken, shall not be subject to the requirements specified in sub-paragraph (*a*) of paragraph (3) of this Regulation, but shall—

(i) be constructed of safety glazing, and

(ii) be fitted only during such time as the vehicles are being driven or towed from the place where the breaking occurred either to premises where new windscreens or other windows are to be permanently fitted to replace the windscreens or other windows which have broken, or to complete the journey in the course of which the breaking occurred.

(7) The windows, other than windscreens, of motor vehicles being engineering plant, land tractors, or land locomotives, which are wholly or partly in front of or on either side of any part of the driver's seat shall not be subject to the requirements specified in sub-paragraph (*a*) of paragraph (3) of this Regulation, but shall be constructed of either specified safety glass or safety glazing.

(8) In the case of motor vehicles and trailers which have not at any time been fitted with permanent windows and which are being driven or towed to a place where permanent windows are to be fitted, any temporary windscreen and any other temporary windows shall be constructed of either specified safety glass or safety glazing.

(9) Save as provided in paragraph (10) of this Regulation, all specified safety glass and all safety glazing of which windscreens and other windows are constructed in accordance with any of the foregoing paragraphs of this Regulation shall have a visual transmission for light of not less than 70 per cent. when measured perpendicular to the surface in accordance with the procedure specified either in British Standard Specification No. 857 or in British Standard Specification No. 5282.

(10) Paragraph (9) of this Regulation shall not apply to—

(*a*) any part of any windscreen which is outside the vision reference zone;

(*b*) windows through which the driver when in the driver's seat is unable at any time to see any part of the road on which the vehicle is waiting or proceeding;

(*c*) windows in any ambulance which are not wholly or partly in front of or on either side of any part of the driver's seat; and

(*d*) windows in any public service vehicle, goods vehicle, locomotive, or motor tractor other than windows which—

(i) are wholly or partly in front of or on either side of any part of the driver's seat,

(ii) face the rear of the vehicle, or

(iii) form the whole or part of a door giving access to or from the exterior of the vehicle.

(11) For the purposes of this Regulation any window is deemed to face the front of the vehicle or the rear of the vehicle if the inner surface of such window is at an angle exceeding 30 degrees to the longitudinal vertical plane of the vehicle.

(12) In this Regulation—

"ambulance" means a motor vehicle which is specially designed and constructed (and not merely adapted) for carrying, as equipment permanently affixed to the vehicle, equipment used for medical, dental or health purposes and is used primarily for the carriage of persons suffering from illness, injury or disability;

"British Standard Specification No. 857" means the British Standard Specification for Safety Glass for Land Transport published on 30th June 1967 under the number BS 857 as amended by Amendment Slip No. 1 published on 15th January 1973 under the number AMD 1088;

"British Standard Specification No. 5282" means the British Standard Specification for Road Vehicle Safety Glass published in December 1975 under the number BS 5282 as amended by Amendment Slip No. 1 published on 31st March 1976 under the number AMD 1927, and as amended by Amendment Slip No. 2 published on 31st January 1977 under the number AMD 2185;

"caravan" means a trailer which is constructed (and not merely adapted) for human habitation;

"safety glass" has the same meaning as in Regulation 3;

"safety glazing" means material (other than glass) which is so constructed or treated that if fractured it does not fly into fragments likely to cause severe cuts;

"security vehicle" means a motor vehicle which is constructed (and not merely adapted) for either—

(*a*) the use or carriage of persons who are likely to require protection from any criminal offence involving violence, or

(*b*) the carriage of bullion, money, jewellery, documents or other goods or burden which, by reason of their value, are likely to require protection from any criminal offence;

"specified safety glass" means either—

(*a*) glass complying with the requirements of British Standard Specification No. 857 (including the requirements as to marking), or

(*b*) glass complying with the requirements of British Standard Specification No. 5282 (including the requirements as to marking);

"vision reference zone" means either—

(*a*) the primary vision area as defined in British Standard Specification No. 857, or

(*b*) Zone 1, as defined in British Standard Specification No. 5282;

"windscreen" includes a windshield."

William Rodgers,
Secretary of State for Transport.

4th May 1977.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Regulations.*)

1. These Regulations further amend the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1973 by amending Regulation 24 and inserting a new Regulation numbered 24A.

2. The amended Regulation 24 continues, as to motor vehicles first used on or after 1st January 1959 but not being motor vehicles to which Regulation 24A applies, the requirements for the use of safety glass contained in the Regulation as it exists.

3. Regulation 24A provides as to caravans manufactured on or after 1st December 1977 and first used on or after 1st September 1978 and as to motor vehicles and trailers, other than caravans, manufactured on or after 1st December 1977 and first used on or after 1st June 1978, requirements for the use of safety glass, specified safety glass, and safety glazing.

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