STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1973 No. 756

ROAD TRAFFIC

The Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) Regulations 1973

Made - - -	17*th April* 1973
Laid before Parliament	18*th April* 1973
Coming into Operation	9*th May* 1973

The Secretary of State for the Environment, in exercise of powers conferred by section 40(1) 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 the said Act, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1.—(1) These Regulations shall come into operation on 9th May 1973 and may be cited as the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) Regulations 1973.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(**b**) 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 1973(**c**) shall be amended in accordance with the following provisions of these Regulations.

3. After Regulation 89 there shall be added the following Regulation:—

"Special provisions as to display of particulars by certain trailers and drawing vehicles

89A.—(1) When—

(*a*) a motor vehicle is drawing a trailer on a road, which is not a special road, in circumstances where the speed limit prescribed by Schedule 5 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1967(**d**) (as varied(**e**)) for the drawing vehicle is 50 miles per hour, or

(*b*) a motor vehicle, having an unladen weight not exceeding 30 hundredweight, is drawing a trailer on a special road in circumstances where the speed limit prescribed by Schedule 5 to the said Act (as varied(**f**)) for the drawing vehicle is 50 miles per hour;

then appropriate weights shall be displayed as follows:—

(i) in the case of the drawing vehicle, its kerbside weight shall be legibly marked in a conspicuous and readily accessible position—

(A) inside the vehicle, or

(B) outside the vehicle and on its left or near side, and

(a) 1972 c. 20.
(b) 1889 c. 63.
(c) S.I. 1973/24 (1973 I, p. 93).
(d) 1967 c. 76.
(e) S.I. 1973/747(1973 I, p. 2384).
(f) S.I. 1973/748(1973 I, p. 2389).

(ii) in the case of the trailer being a living van, or being neither a living van nor a load-carrying trailer, its maximum gross weight shall be legibly marked in a conspicuous and readily accessible position on the left or near side of, and on the outside of, the trailer.

(2) The appropriate weights referred to in paragraph (1) above may be stated in imperial units or in metric units but the same units shall be employed for both the drawing vehicle and the trailer, and if metric units are employed the weights shall be stated in kilograms.

(3) No trailer when being drawn on a road in circumstances where the speed limit for the drawing vehicle prescribed by Schedule 5 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1967 (as varied (a)) is less than 50 miles per hour shall display the plate referred to in paragraph 25 of that Schedule.

(4) In this Regulation—

"kerbside weight" means, in relation to a motor vehicle, the weight of the vehicle (inclusive of any towing bracket with which it is normally equipped) when it carries—

(i) no person thereon, and

(ii) a full supply of fuel in its tank, an adequate supply of other liquids incidental to its propulsion and no load other than the loose tools and equipment with which the vehicle is normally equipped;

"maximum gross weight" means, in relation to a trailer, the weight which it is designed or adapted not to exceed when in use and travelling on a road laden."

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State.

John Peyton,
Minister for Transport Industries,
Department of the Environment.

17th April 1973.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These Regulations amend the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1973 by adding a new Regulation 89A. This new Regulation requires the display of appropriate weights on motor vehicles and on trailers drawn by them in cases where the speed limit prescribed by Schedule 5 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1967 (as varied by the Motor Vehicles (Variation of Speed Limits) Regulations 1973 or by the Motor Vehicles (Speed Limits on Motorways) Regulations 1973) for the motor vehicle, when drawing the trailer, is 50 mph. The new Regulation also prohibits the display on a trailer of a plate bearing the number '50' in cases where the speed limit prescribed by the said Schedule 5 (as so varied) for the motor vehicle, when drawing the trailer, is less than 50 mph.

(a) S.I. 1973/747 (1973 I, p. 2384).

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