1973. No. 224 **[C]**

ROAD TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES

Motor Vehicles: Construction and Use

REGULATIONS, DATED 29TH JUNE 1973, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, UNDER SECTION 26 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1970.

The Ministry of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Secretary of State and in exercise of the powers vested in it by section 26 of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970(a) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1973, and shall come into operation on the 1st July 1973.

Regulations amended

2. The Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1967(b) shall have effect as though—

(1) after Regulation 62 there were inserted the following Regulation:—

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

62A.—(1) When—

(*a*) a motor vehicle drawing a trailer on a road, which is not a special road, in circumstances where the speed limit prescribed by the Motor Vehicles (Maximum Speed) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1973(c) 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 the Motor Vehicles (Speed Limit on Special Roads) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1973(d) 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

(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.

(a) 1970. c. 2 (N.I.).
(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967, No. 75.
(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1973, No. 222.
(d) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1973, No. 223.

(2) The appropriate weights referred to in paragraph (1) 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 the above-mentioned Regulations is less than 50 miles per hour shall display the plate referred to in paragraph 18 of the Schedule to the Motor Vehicles (Maximum Speed) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1973.

(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 it 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 it is designed or adapted not to exceed when in use and travelling on a road laden."; and

(2) after Regulation 88 there were inserted the following Regulation:—

"**88A.** No trailer, which is a living van and either has less than 4 wheels or is a four-wheeled trailer having two close-coupled wheels on each side, shall be used for the carriage of any passenger:

Provided that this Regulation shall not apply to a trailer while it is being tested by the manufacturer by whom it was made, or by the repairer by whom it is being or has been repaired, or by a distributor of trailers or a dealer in trailers."

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland this 29th day of June 1973.

(L.S.)

W. G. Robinson,
Assistant Secretary.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These Regulations amend the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1967 by adding new Regulations 62A and 88A.

Regulation 62A requires the display of appropriate weights on motor vehicles and on trailers drawn by them where the speed limit prescribed by the Motor Vehicles (Maximum Speed) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1973 or by the Motor Vehicles (Speed Limit on Special Roads) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1973 for the motor vehicle, when drawing the trailer, is 50 m.p.h.

The Regulation also prohibits the display on a trailer of a plate bearing the number "50" in cases where the speed limit prescribed by the above-mentioned Regulations for the motor vehicle, when drawing the trailer, is less than 50 m.p.h.

Regulation 88A states that subject to certain exceptions, the carriage of passengers in a moving living van with less than four wheels or with four close-coupled wheels is prohibited.