STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1983 No. 1859

ROAD TRAFFIC

The Motor Vehicles (Dim-Dip Lighting Devices) Regulations 1983

Made - - - -	*14th December* 1983
Laid before Parliament	*22nd December* 1983
Coming into Operation	*13th January* 1984

The Secretary of State for Transport, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 40(1), (2A), and (3), of the Road Traffic Act 1972(**a**) and now vested in him (**b**) 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 of 1972, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations shall come into operation on 13th January 1984, and may be cited as the Motor Vehicles (Dim-Dip Lighting Devices) Regulations 1983.

2. Any expression used in these Regulations and which is given a definition in Regulation 3(1) of the Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1971(**c**) shall be construed in accordance with that definition.

3.—(1) Save as provided in paragraph (2) below, these Regulations apply to every motor vehicle which—

(a) is manufactured on or after 1st October 1986 and first used on or after 1st April 1987;

(b) has three or more wheels (not being a motor bicycle with a sidecar);

(c) is capable of exceeding a speed of 25 miles per hour on the level under its own power; and

(d) is fitted with at least one pair of headlamps as required by Part III of the Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1971.

(2) These Regulations do not apply to any vehicle proceeding to a port for export or to any vehicle brought temporarily into Great Britain by a person resident abroad.

(a) 1972 c. 20; section 40 of which Act has been amended by section 9(1) and (2) of the Road Traffic Act 1974 (c. 50).
(b) S.I. 1979/571 and 1981/238.
(c) S.I. 1971/694; the relevant amending Instruments are S.I. 1977/1560 and 1978/1261.

4.—(1) No person shall use, or cause or permit to be used, on a road a vehicle to which these Regulations apply unless it is equipped with a device which whenever—

(a) the obligatory front lamps of the vehicle are switched on; and

(b) either—

(i) the engine of the vehicle is running, or

(ii) the key or devices which control the starting or stopping of the engine are in the normal position for driving the vehicle

automatically supplies sufficient current to cause to be emitted either—

(A) lights as specified in paragraph (2) below, or

(B) lights as specified in paragraph (3) below.

(2) The lights referred to in paragraph (1)(A) above are a light to the front from the dipped-beam filament of each of a pair of obligatory headlamps, each such light having, so far as is reasonably practicable, an intensity—

(a) in the case of a halogen filament lamp, of 10 per cent of the normal intensity of the dipped beam, or

(b) in the case of any other type of filament lamp, of 15 per cent of the normal intensity of the dipped beam.

(3) The lights referred to in paragraph (1)(B) above are a white light to the front from each lamp of any pair of front lamps each of which has an illuminated area of not less than 150 square centimetres and which are fitted in a position in which obligatory headlamps emitting a dipped beam may lawfully be fitted, each such light having an intensity of not less than 200 candelas, measured from directly in front of the centre of the lamp in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle, and not more than 400 candelas in any direction.

5.—(1) Regulation 13 of the Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1971(**a**) does not apply to any light mentioned in Regulation 4(2) or (3) above.

(2) No light mentioned in Regulation 4(2) or (3) above shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements of Regulations 21 and 22 of the Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1971 or of Regulation 2 of the Road Vehicles (Use of Lights during Daytime) Regulations 1975(**b**).

Nicholas Ridley,
14th December, 1983. Secretary of State for Transport.

(**a**) S.I. 1971/694, to which there is no relevant amending Instrument.
(**b**) S.I. 1975/245; the relevant amending Instrument is S.I. 1978/1262.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

1. These Regulations provide that no person shall use, or cause or permit to be used, on a road a vehicle of a kind specified in Regulation 3 unless it is fitted with a device of a kind specified in Regulation 4.

2. Broadly, the vehicles specified in Regulation 3 are those with three or more wheels manufactured on or after 1st October 1986 and first used on or after 1st April 1987. The devices are required to supply (when the obligatory front lamps of the vehicle are switched on and when either the engine of the vehicle is running or the key or devices which control the starting or stopping of the engine are in the normal position for driving the vehicle) sufficient current to cause a dim-dip light to be emitted to the front from lamps as mentioned in Regulation 4(2) or (3).

3. Regulation 5(1) provides that Regulation 13 of the Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1971 (which imposes requirements about the extinguishment of front lamps on stationary vehicles) does not apply to a dim-dip light. Regulation 5(2) provides that no dim-dip light shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements of Regulations 21 and 22 of the 1971 Regulations (which impose requirements about the use of headlamps) or Regulation 2 of the Road Vehicles (Use of Lights during Daytime) Regulations 1975 (which imposes requirements about the use of lamps during daytime hours in poor visibility).

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