STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1965 No. 2085

ROAD TRAFFIC

The Traffic Signs (Motorways Speed Limits) Regulations 1965

Made - - - -	*9th December* 1965
Laid before Parliament	*16th December* 1965
Coming into Operation	*22nd December* 1965

The Secretary of State and the Minister of Transport, acting jointly in exercise of their powers under section 51 of the Road Traffic Act 1960(a) and of all other powers them enabling in that behalf and after consultation with representative organisations in accordance with the provisions of section 260(2) of that Act, hereby make the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations shall come into operation on 22nd December 1965 and may be cited as the Traffic Signs (Motorways Speed Limits) Regulations 1965.

2.—(1) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the expression "motorway" has the meaning assigned to it in the Traffic Signs Regulations 1964(b).

(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.

3. Every traffic sign for conveying information to traffic on a motorway that a speed limit is in force shall be of the following size, colour and type:—

(1) the sign shall be circular;

(2) the sign shall have a white background and a red border, and the speed limit shall be indicated by appropriate numerals coloured black;

(3) the sign shall conform to one of the following sets of dimensions:—

(*a*) the sign shall have a diameter of 40 inches, the red border shall have a width of $4\frac{1}{8}$ inches, and each numeral shall have a height of 15 inches; or

(*b*) the sign shall have a diameter of 32 inches, the red border shall have a width of $3\frac{3}{8}$ inches, and each numeral shall have a height of 12 inches; or

(a) 8 & 9 Eliz. 2. c. 16. (b) S.I. 1964/1857 (1964 III, p. 4053).
(c) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

(*c*) the sign shall have a diameter of 24 inches, the red border shall have a width of 2½ inches, and each numeral shall have a height of 9 inches; or

(*d*) the sign shall have a diameter of 12 inches, the red border shall have a width of 1¼ inches, and each numeral shall have a height of 4½ inches:

Provided that any variation in a dimension specified in this paragraph shall be treated as permitted by these Regulations if the variation—

(*a*) in the case of a dimension so specified as 12 inches or as over 12 inches, does not exceed 2½ per cent. of that dimension; or

(*b*) in the case of a dimension so specified as under 12 inches, does not exceed 10 per cent. of that dimension; and

(4) The sign shall be illuminated either:—

(*a*) by the use of reflecting material which shall be of the same colour as that of, and extend throughout, that part of the sign to which it is applied; or

(*b*) by means of external lighting between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise:

Provided that no reflecting material shall be applied to the numerals coloured black.

4. A traffic sign for conveying to a driver of a motor vehicle on a motorway the warning that, owing to the existence of a hazard on a motorway, he should drive at a speed which does not exceed 30 miles per hour and is safe having regard to any hazard which he may encounter until it is safe for him to drive at a greater speed, shall consist of two beacons showing light signals of the following size, colour and type:—

(1) two lamps each showing an intermittent amber light shall be used;

(2) the lamps shall be arranged either vertically so that there is a distance of not less than 2 feet 9 inches nor more than 3 feet 3 inches between the centres of the lenses of the lamps, or horizontally so that there is a distance of not less than 6 feet 9 inches nor more than 7 feet 3 inches between the centres of the lenses of the lamps;

(3) each lamp shall be separately illuminated and the effective diameter of the lens thereof shall be not less than 5 inches nor more than 6 inches where the lamps are arranged vertically and not less than 8 inches nor more than 10 inches where the lamps are arranged horizontally;

(4) each lamp shall show its intermittent amber light at a rate of flashing of not less than 54 nor more than 88 flashes per minute, and in such a manner that the light of one lamp is always shown at a time when the light of the other lamp is not shown.

Dated the 9th December 1965.

William Ross,
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Dated the 9th December 1965.

James Griffiths,
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Transport the 9th December 1965.

(L.S.)

Tom Fraser,
Minister of Transport.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations prescribe the following traffic signs for use on motorways :—

(1) Regulation 3 prescribes a traffic sign for indicating a speed limit on a motorway, and makes provision for its illumination.

(2) Regulation 4 prescribes a traffic sign consisting of two beacons arranged either vertically, or horizontally, showing intermittent alternating amber lights, to warn drivers of motor vehicles on a motorway that, owing to the existence of a hazard on a motorway, they should drive at a speed which does not exceed 30 miles per hour and is safe having regard to any hazard which they may encounter, until it is safe for them to drive at a greater speed.