

**INFORMATION ON THE LATEST STATUS IN NATIONAL LEGISLATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM
RELATING TO TYRES AND TO PASSIVE SAFETY**

Transmitted by the expert of the United Kingdom

NEW VEHICLES

- 1 Categories M1 and L, are subject to type approval of the whole vehicle in accordance with the appropriate European Union Directives. Whole vehicle approval includes the requirement that the tyres are themselves type approved and are suitable for the maximum permissible mass and maximum design speed of the vehicle. The approval of the tyres will be in accordance with EU Directives 92/23/EEC or 97/24/EC (Chapter 1) but almost invariably in practice, will be approved to the equivalent UNECE Regulations, Nos. 30, or 75 as appropriate.

A special "Single Vehicle Approval (SVA)" scheme exists in the United Kingdom, to approve a small number of vehicles that have not been subject to the EU whole vehicle procedure. These will be individual or small numbers of vehicles, either new or previously used, typically imported from the USA or Japan and, for first use will be allowed to be fitted with tyres complying with certain recognised standards such as those of the USA DOT or Japanese JIS.

- 2 Categories M2, M3, N and O are controlled by national legislation in the form of "The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986". Similar regulations existed before the year 1986 but this is the latest date of major consolidation and the Regulations have been, and are, subject to a continuous process of updating. Goods vehicles are generally subject to national type approval and, together with trailers having a permissible mass greater than 3 500kg, are also subject to plating requirements, to indicate maximum permitted mass and axle loads for the vehicle. The tyres fitted to any vehicles in these categories must be suitable for the maximum permitted mass and the national speed limit for the class of vehicle and must be type approved in accordance with either EU Directives or UNECE Regulations as appropriate.

VEHICLES IN USE

- 1 For categories M1, L and for light trailers (less than 3 500kg) there is legislation under a UK Consumer Protection Act to prohibit the supply of any in-service replacement tyres that are not type approved in accordance with either EU Directives or UNECE Regulations as appropriate. The tyres fitted to a vehicle must comply with The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 in terms of suitability for the load and relevant national speed limit for the vehicle in the United Kingdom.
- 2 For categories M2, M3, N and O the requirements are the same as given above for new vehicles but type approval is not required for tyres fitted to vehicles first used before 1 April 1991.
- 3 In the case of retreaded tyres, the Consumer Protection Act legislation referred to above, now prohibits the supply of any retreaded tyre suitable for fitting to category M or N vehicles unless the retreaded tyre is type approved in accordance with either UNECE Regulations Nos. 108 or 109. In the absence of any international requirements or UK National Standards for retreaded tyres for category L vehicles, the legislation sets out basic requirements, including marking and load/speed performance in accordance with the technical provisions in the relevant EU Directives or UNECE Regulations.
