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World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29)

DRAFT REGULATION:

UNIFORM PROVISIONS CONCERNING THE APPROVAL OF TYRES
WITH REGARD TO ROLLING SOUND EMISSIONS

Note: The text reproduced below was adopted by the Administrative Committee (AC.1) of the amended 1958 Agreement at its twenty-seventh session, following the recommendation by WP.29 at its one-hundred-and-thirty-third session. It is based on documents TRANS/WP.29/2002/7/Rev.1, TRANS/WP.29/2002/7/Rev.1/Corr.1 and TRANS/WP.29/2003/47, not amended (TRANS/WP.29/1016, para. 84.).

1. SCOPE

This Regulation contains provisions relating to the sound emission level of tyres in rolling conditions on a Standard Test Surface.

1.1 This Regulation applies to newly manufactured pneumatic tyres intended to be fitted to road vehicles of categories M, N and O, manufactured on, or after 1 October 1980. It does not, however, apply to:

1.1.1. Tyres designed as "Temporary use spare tyres" and marked "Temporary use only";

1.1.2. Tyres having a nominal rim diameter code ≤ 10 (or ≤ 254 mm) or ≥ 25 (or ≥ 635 mm);

1.1.3. Tyres designed for competitions.

1.1.4. Tyres intended to be fitted to road vehicles of categories other than M, N and O.

1.1.5. Tyres fitted with additional devices to improve traction properties (e.g. studded tyres).

1.1.6. Tyres with a speed rating less than 80 km/h (F).

2. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Regulation, in addition to the definitions contained in ECE Regulations Nos. 30 and 54, the following definitions apply.

2.1. "Type of tyre" means, in relation to this Regulation, a range of tyres consisting of a list of tyre size designations, brand names and trade descriptions, which do not differ in such essential characteristics as:

- (i) the manufacturer's name
- (ii) the tyre class (see para. 2.4)
- (iii) the tyre structure
- (iv) the category of use: normal tyre, special use tyre and snow tyre;
- (v) for Class C1 tyres whether normal or Reinforced (or Extra Load)
- (vi) the tread pattern (see para. 3.2.1.).

2.2. "Brand name" or "Trade description" means the identification of the tyre as given by the tyre manufacturer. The Brand name may be the same as that of the manufacturer and the Trade description may coincide with the trade mark.

- 2.3. "Rolling sound emission" means the sound emitted from the contact between the tyres in motion and the road surface.
- 2.4. "Tyre Class" means one of the following groupings:
- 2.4.1. Class C1 tyres: Tyres conforming to ECE Regulation No. 30.
- 2.4.2. Class C2 tyres: Tyres conforming to ECE Regulation No. 54 and identified by a load capacity index in single formation lower or equal to 121 and a speed category symbol higher or equal to "N".
- 2.4.3. Class C3 tyres: Tyres conforming to ECE Regulation No. 54 and identified by:
- (a) a load capacity index in single formation higher or equal to 122, or
 - (b) a load capacity index in single formation lower or equal to 121 and a speed category symbol lower or equal to "M".
- 2.5. "Representative tyre size" means the tyre size which is submitted to the test described in Annex 3 to this Regulation, to assess the conformity for the type approval of the type of tyre.
- 2.6. "Temporary-use spare tyre" means a tyre different from a tyre intended to be fitted to any vehicle for normal driving conditions; but intended only for temporary use under restricted driving conditions.
- 2.7. "Tyres designed for competition" means tyres intended to be fitted to vehicles involved in motor sport competition and not intended for non-competitive on-road use.
- 2.8. "Normal tyre" means a tyre intended for normal, everyday, on-road use;
- 2.9. "Special use tyre" means a tyre intended for mixed use both on- and off-road or for other special duty.
- 2.10. "Snow tyre" means a tyre whose tread pattern, tread compound or structure are primarily designed to achieve in snow conditions a performance better than that of a normal tyre with regard to its ability to initiate or maintain vehicle motion.

3. APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL

- 3.1. The application for approval of a type of tyre with regard to rolling sound emission level shall be submitted by the tyre manufacturer or by his duly accredited representative. It shall specify:

- 3.1.1. Name of manufacturer;
- 3.1.2. Name and address of applicant;
- 3.1.3. Address(es) of manufacturing plant(s);
- 3.1.4. Brand name(s), trade description(s), trade mark(s);
- 3.1.5. Tyre class (Class C1, C2 or C3) (see paragraph 2.4. of this Regulation);
 - 3.1.5.1. Section width range for class C1 tyres (see paragraph 6.1.1 of this Regulation);
- 3.1.6. Tyre structure;
- 3.1.7. for Class C1 tyres, state whether Reinforced (or Extra Load);
- 3.1.8. Category of use (normal, snow, or special);
- 3.1.9. A list of tyre size designations covered by this application.
- 3.2. The application for approval shall be accompanied (in triplicate) by:
 - 3.2.1. Details of the major features, with respect to the effects on tyre rolling sound emissions, of the tread pattern(s) to be used on the designated range of tyre sizes. This may be by drawing, photograph or description, but must be sufficient to allow the type approval authority or technical service to determine whether any subsequent changes to the major features will adversely affect the tyre rolling sound emission. The effects of changes to minor details of tyre construction on tyre rolling sound emission will be evident and determined during checks on conformity of production.
 - 3.2.2. Drawings or photographs of the tyre sidewall, showing the information given in paragraph 3.1.4. above and the approval marking referred to in paragraph 5, shall be submitted once the production has been established, but no later than one year after the date of granting of type approval.
- 3.3. At the request of the type approval authority, the applicant shall submit samples of tyres for test or copies of test reports from the technical services, communicated as given in paragraph 11 of this Regulation.
- 3.4. With regard to the application, testing may be confined to a worst case selection, at the discretion of the type approval authority or designated technical service.

4. MARKINGS

- 4.1. All tyres constituting the type of tyre must be marked as prescribed by either ECE Regulation No. 30 or No. 54, as applicable.
- 4.2. In particular tyres must bear:
 - 4.2.1. the manufacturer's name or trade mark
 - 4.2.2. the trade description (see para. 2.2). However, the trade description is not required when it coincides with the trade mark.
 - 4.2.3. the tyre size designation
 - 4.2.4. the inscription "REINFORCED" (or alternatively "EXTRA LOAD") if the tyre is classified as reinforced.
 - 4.2.5. the inscription "M+S" (or alternatively "M.S" or "M&S") if the tyre is classified in the category of use "snow".
 - 4.2.6. the inscription "MPT" (or alternatively "ML" or "ET") if the tyre is classified in the category of use "special".
- 4.3. Tyres shall provide adequate space for the approval mark as shown in Annex 2 to this Regulation.
- 4.4. The approval mark shall be moulded into or onto the sidewall of the tyre, shall be clearly legible and shall be located in the lower area of the tyre on at least one of the sidewalls;
 - 4.4.1. However, in the case of tyres identified by the tyre to rim fitment configuration symbol "A", the marking may be located anywhere on the outside sidewall of the tyre.

5. APPROVAL

- 5.1. If the representative tyre size of the type of tyre submitted for approval pursuant to this Regulation meets the requirements of paragraphs 6 and 7 below, approval of that type of tyre shall be granted.
- 5.2. An approval number shall be assigned to the type of tyre approved. The same Contracting Party may not assign the same number to another type of tyre.
- 5.3. Notice of approval or extension of approval or refusal of approval of a type of tyre pursuant to this Regulation shall be communicated to the Parties to the Agreement,

which apply this Regulation by means of a form conforming to the model in Annex 1 to the Regulation.

- 5.4. In the space referred to in paragraph 4.3. and in accordance with the requirements of paragraph 4.4. there shall be affixed to every tyre size, conforming to the type of tyre approved under this Regulation, an international approval mark consisting of:
 - 5.4.1. a circle surrounding the letter "E" followed by the distinguishing number of the country which has granted approval 1/, and
 - 5.4.2. the approval number, followed by "-s", placed to the right (or below) the circle prescribed in paragraph 5.4.1.
- 5.5. If the tyre conforms to type approvals under one or more other Regulations annexed to the Agreement in the country which has granted approval under this Regulation, the symbol prescribed in paragraph 5.4.1. need not be repeated. In such a case the additional numbers and symbols of all the Regulations under which approval has been granted in the country which has granted approval under this Regulation shall be placed adjacent to the symbol prescribed in paragraph 5.4.1. above.
- 5.6. Annex 2 to this Regulation gives examples of arrangements of approval marks.
6. SPECIFICATIONS
 - 6.1. Rolling sound emission limits, as measured by method described in Annex 3 to this Regulation.

1/ 1 for Germany, 2 for France, 3 for Italy, 4 for the Netherlands, 5 for Sweden, 6 for Belgium, 7 for Hungary, 8 for the Czech Republic, 9 for Spain, 10 for Serbia and Montenegro, 11 for the United Kingdom, 12 for Austria, 13 for Luxembourg, 14 for Switzerland, 15 (vacant), 16 for Norway, 17 for Finland, 18 for Denmark, 19 for Romania, 20 for Poland, 21 for Portugal, 22 for the Russian Federation, 23 for Greece, 24 for Ireland, 25 for Croatia, 26 for Slovenia, 27 for Slovakia, 28 for Belarus, 29 for Estonia, 30 (vacant), 31 for Bosnia and Herzegovina, 32 for Latvia, 33 (vacant), 34 for Bulgaria, 35 (vacant), 36 for Lithuania, 37 for Turkey, 38 (vacant), 39 for Azerbaijan, 40 for The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 41 (vacant), 42 for the European Community (Approvals are granted by its Member States using their respective ECE symbol), 43 for Japan, 44 (vacant), 45 for Australia, 46 for Ukraine, 47 for South Africa, 48 for New Zealand, 49 for Cyprus and 50 for Malta. Subsequent numbers shall be assigned to other countries in the chronological order in which they ratify or accede to the Agreement Concerning the Adoption of Uniform Technical Prescriptions for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be Fitted and/or be Used on Wheeled Vehicles and the Conditions for Reciprocal Recognition of Approvals Granted on the Basis of these Prescriptions, and the numbers thus assigned shall be communicated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Contracting Parties to the Agreement.

- 6.1.1. For Class C1 tyres, the rolling sound emission value shall not exceed the values given below. These values apply to both normal and snow tyres and refer to the nominal section width as given in paragraph 2.17.1.1 of Regulation No. 30:

Nominal Section Width	Limit dB(A)
145 and lower	72
Over 145 up to 165	73
Over 165 up to 185	74
Over 185 up to 215	75
Over 215	76

- 6.1.1.1. In case of "Reinforced" (or Extra-load) Class C1 tyres (see paragraph 4.2.4. above), the limits of paragraph 6.1.1. are to be increased by 1 dB(A).
- 6.1.1.2. In case of Class C1 tyres classified in category of use "Special" (see paragraph 4.2.6. above) the limits of paragraph 6.1.1. are to be increased by 2 dB(A).
- 6.1.2. For Class C2 tyres, the rolling sound emission value with reference to its category of use (see paragraph 2.1. above) shall not exceed:

Category of use	Limit dB(A)
Normal	75
Snow	77
Special	78

- 6.1.3. For Class C3 tyres, the rolling sound emission value with reference to its category of use (see paragraph 2.1. above) shall not exceed:

Category of use	Limit dB(A)
Normal	76
Snow	78
Special	79

7. MODIFICATIONS OF THE TYPE OF PNEUMATIC TYRE AND EXTENSION OF APPROVAL

- 7.1. Every modification of the type of tyre, approved with respect to rolling sound emission in accordance with this Regulation, shall be notified to the type approval authority which approved the type of tyre. The authority may either:

- 7.1.1. Consider that the modifications are unlikely to have any appreciable adverse effect on the tyre rolling sound emission and that the tyre will comply with the requirements of this Regulation; or
- 7.1.2. Require further samples to be submitted for test or further test reports from the designated technical service.
- 7.1.3. Confirmation or refusal of approval, specifying the modifications, shall be communicated by the procedure given in paragraph 5.3. of this Regulation to the Parties to the Agreement which apply this Regulation.
- 7.1.4. The type approval authority granting the extension of approval shall assign a series number for such an extension which shall be shown on the communication form.

8. CONFORMITY OF PRODUCTION

The conformity of production procedures shall comply with those set out in the Agreement, Appendix 2 (E/ECE/324-E/ECE/TRANS/505/Rev.2) with the following requirements:

- 8.1. Any tyre approved under this Regulation shall be so manufactured as to conform to the rolling sound emission limits of the type of tyre approved and satisfy the requirements of paragraph 6 above.
- 8.2. In order to verify conformity as prescribed in paragraph 8.1. above, a random sample of tyres bearing the approval mark required by this Regulation shall be taken from the series production. The normal frequency of verification of conformity of production shall be at least once every two years.
- 8.3. Production shall be deemed to conform to the requirements of this Regulation if the levels measured comply with the limits prescribed in paragraph 6.1. above, with an additional allowance of +1 dB(A) for possible mass production variations.

9. PENALTIES FOR NON-CONFORMITY OF PRODUCTION

- 9.1. The approval granted in respect of a type of tyre pursuant to this Regulation may be withdrawn if the requirements laid down in paragraph 8 above are not complied with, or if any tyre of the type of tyre exceeds the limits given in paragraph 8.3. above.
- 9.2. If a Party to the Agreement, which applies this Regulation, withdraws an approval, it has previously granted, it shall forthwith notify the other Contracting Parties applying this Regulation by means of a copy of the approval form conforming to the model in Annex 1 to the Regulation.

10. PRODUCTION DEFINITELY DISCONTINUED

If the holder of an approval completely ceases to manufacture a type of pneumatic tyre approved in accordance with this Regulation, he shall so inform the authority, which granted the approval. Upon receiving the relevant communication that authority shall inform thereof the other Parties to the 1958 Agreement applying this Regulation by means of a communication form conforming to the model in Annex 1 to this Regulation.

11. NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF TECHNICAL SERVICES CONDUCTING APPROVAL TESTS AND OF ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENTS

11.1. The Parties to the Agreement which apply this Regulation shall communicate to the United Nations Secretariat, the names and addresses of the technical services conducting approval tests and of the administrative departments which grant approval and to which forms certifying approval or extension of approval or refusal or withdrawal of approval, issued in other countries, are to be sent.

12. INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

12.1. As from the date of entry into force of this Regulation, Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall not

(a) refuse to grant ECE approval for a type of tyre under this Regulation, or

(b) prohibit the sale or entry into service of a tyre

if the tyre falls within the scope of this Regulation and complies with the requirements of this Regulation.

12.2. As from 4 August 2003, a Contracting Party applying this Regulation shall refuse to grant national approval of a type of tyre if the tyre falls within the scope of this Regulation and does not comply with the requirements of this Regulation.

12.3. As from the dates given below, a Contracting Party applying this Regulation shall refuse to allow the sale or entry into service of a tyre which falls within the scope of this Regulation and which does not meet the requirements of this Regulation.

For Class 1 tyres up to 185 section width 1 October 2009

For Class 1 tyres over 185 up to 215 section width 1 October 2010

For Class 1 tyres over 215 section width 1 October 2011

For Class 2 and Class 3 tyres 1 October 2009

Prior to the above dates, Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall not require for the sale or entry into service of a replacement tyre which falls within the scope of this Regulation, for it to comply with the requirements of this Regulation.

- 12.4. Until 31 December 2005 at the latest, the laboratories and test facilities of a tyre manufacturer may be designated as an approved laboratory and the type-approval authority shall have the option of being represented during any tests.

As from 1 January 2006, the laboratories and test facilities of a tyre manufacturer may be used by the type approval authority, but any tests carried out must be overseen and witnessed by the type approval authority.

Annex 1

COMMUNICATION

(Maximum format: A4 (210 x 297 mm))



issued by :

Name of administration:

.....
.....
.....

concerning: 2/

- APPROVAL GRANTED
- APPROVAL EXTENDED
- APPROVAL REFUSED
- APPROVAL WITHDRAWN
- PRODUCTION DEFINITELY DISCONTINUED

of a type of tyre with regard to rolling sound emission level pursuant to Regulation No. XXX.

Approval No.

Extension No.

1. Manufacturer's name and address(es):
2. If applicable, name and address of manufacturer's representative:
3. "Tyre class" and "category of use" of the type of tyre:
4. Brand(s) name(s) and/or Trade description(s) of the type of tyre:
5. Technical service and, where appropriate, test laboratory approved
for purposes of approval or of verification of conformity tests:
6. Sound level of the representative tyre size, see paragraph 2.5. of Regulation No. XXX,
as per item 7. of the test report: dB(A) at reference speed of 70/80 km/h 2/
7. Number of report issued by that service:
8. Date of report issued by that service:
9. Reason(s) of extension (if applicable):

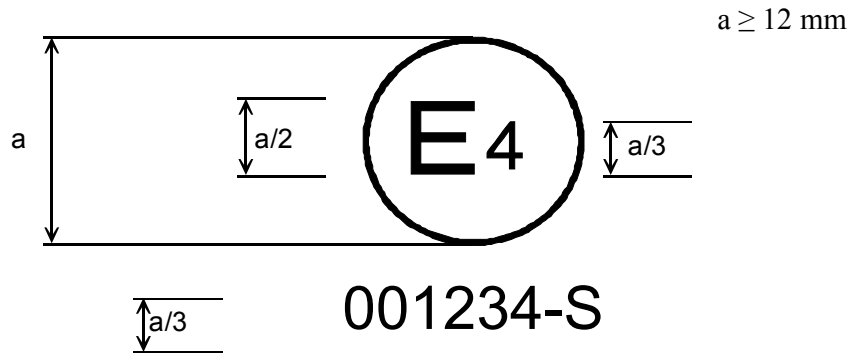
- 10. Any remarks:
- 11. Place:
- 12. Date:
- 13. Signature:
- 14. Annexed to this communication are:
 - 14.1. A list of documents in the approval file deposited at the Administration services having delivered the approval and which can be obtained upon request.
 - 14.2. A list of tread-pattern designations: Specify for each trademark or brand name and trade description the list of tyre size designations adding, in the case of Class C1 tyres, the mark "Reinforced" or "Extra Load", if applicable.

- 1/ Distinguishing number of the country which has granted/extended/ refused/withdrawn approval (see approval provisions in the Regulation)
- 2/ Strike out what does not apply

Annex 2

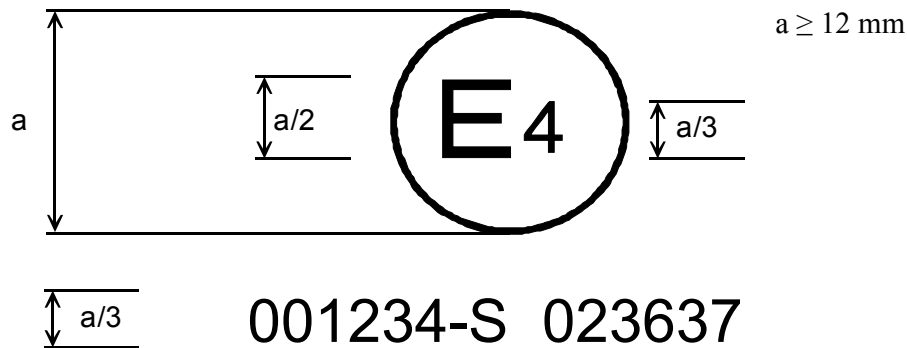
ARRANGEMENT OF APPROVAL MARKS

Example 1



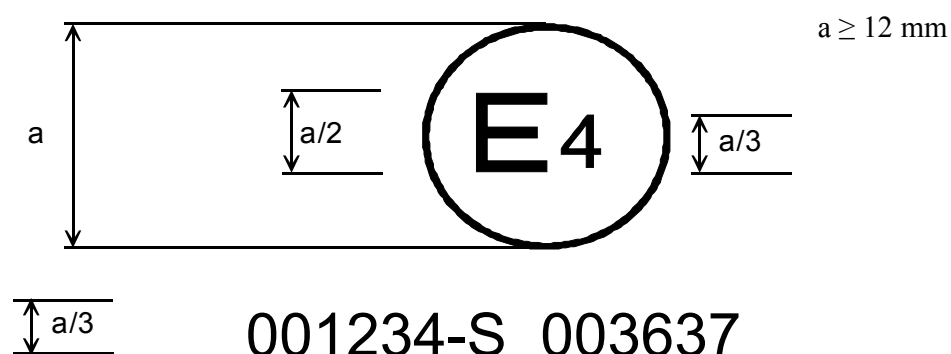
The above approval mark, affixed to a pneumatic tyre shows that the tyre concerned has been approved in the Netherlands (E4) pursuant to Regulation No. XXX (marked by "-S" only), under approval number 001234. The first two digits of the approval number (00) indicate that the approval was granted according to the requirements of this Regulation in its original form.

Example 2



The above approval mark shows that the tyre concerned has been approved in the Netherlands (E4) pursuant to Regulations Nos. XXX (marked by "-S" only) and 30. The first two digits of the approval numbers indicate that, at the dates when the respective approvals were granted, Regulation No. XXX was still in its original form, but Regulation No. 30 included the 02 series of amendments.

Example 3



The above approval mark shows that the tyre concerned has been approved in the Netherlands (E4) pursuant to Regulations Nos. XXX (marked by "-S" only) and 54. The first two digits of the approval numbers indicate that, at the dates when the respective approvals were granted, Regulations Nos. XXX and 54 were still in its original form.

Note: The approval number(s) must be placed close to the circle and either above or below the "E" or on the left or right of that letter. The digits of the approval number must be on the same side of the "E" and face in the same direction. The use of Roman numerals as approval numbers should be avoided so as to prevent any confusion with other symbols.

Annex 3

COAST-BY TEST METHOD FOR MEASURING TYRE-ROLLING SOUND EMISSION

0. Introduction

The presented method contains specifications on measuring instruments, measurement conditions and the measurement method, in order to obtain the sound level of a set of tyres mounted on a test vehicle rolling on a specified road surface. The maximum sound pressure level is to be recorded, when the test vehicle is coasting, by remote-field microphones; the final result for a reference speed is obtained from a linear regression analysis. Such test results cannot be related to tyre rolling sound measured during acceleration under power or deceleration under braking.

1. Measuring instruments

1.1. Acoustic measurements

The sound level meter or the equivalent measuring system, including the windscreen recommended by the manufacturer shall meet or exceed the requirements of Type 1 instruments in accordance with IEC 60651:1979/A1:1993, second edition.

The measurements shall be made using the frequency weighting A, and the time weighting F.

When using a system that includes a periodic monitoring of the A-weighted sound level, a reading should be made at a time interval not greater than 30 ms.

1.1.1. Calibration

At the beginning and at the end of every measurement session, the entire measurement system shall be checked by means of a sound calibrator that fulfils the requirements for sound calibrators of at least precision Class 1 according to IEC 60942:1988. Without any further adjustment the difference between the readings of two consecutive checks shall be less than or equal to 0.5 dB. If this value is exceeded, the results of the measurements obtained after the previous satisfactory check shall be discarded.

1.1.2. Compliance with requirements

The compliance of the sound calibration device with the requirements of IEC 60942:1988 shall be verified once a year and the compliance of the instrumentation system with the requirements of IEC 60651:1979/A1:1993, second edition shall be verified at least every two years, by a laboratory which is authorized to perform calibrations traceable to the appropriate standards.

1.1.3. Positioning of the microphone

The microphone (or microphones) must be located at a distance of 7.5 ± 0.05 m from track reference line CC' (figure 1) and 1.2 ± 0.02 m above the ground. Its axis of maximum sensitivity must be horizontal and perpendicular to the path of the vehicle (line CC').

1.2. Speed measurements

The vehicle speed shall be measured with instruments with accuracy of ± 1 km/h or better when the front end of the vehicle has reached line PP' (figure 1).

1.3. Temperature measurements

Measurements of air as well as test surface temperature are mandatory. The temperature measuring devices shall be accurate within ± 1 °C.

1.3.1. Air temperature

The temperature sensor is to be positioned in an unobstructed location close to the microphone in such a way that it is exposed to the airflow and protected from direct solar radiation. The latter may be achieved by any shading screen or similar device. The sensor should be positioned at a height of 1.2 ± 0.1 m above the test surface level, to minimize the influence of the test surface thermal radiation at low airflows.

1.3.2. Test surface temperature

The temperature sensor is to be positioned in a location where the temperature measured is representative of the temperature in the wheel tracks, without interfering with the sound measurement.

If an instrument with a contact temperature sensor is used, heat-conductive paste shall be applied between the surface and the sensor to ensure adequate thermal contact.

If a radiation thermometer (pyrometer) is used, the height should be chosen to ensure that a measuring spot with a diameter of ≥ 0.1 m is covered.

1.4. Wind measurement

The device must be capable of measuring the wind speed with a tolerance of ± 1 m/s. The wind shall be measured at microphone height. The wind direction with reference to the driving direction shall be recorded.

2. Conditions of measurement

2.1. Test site

The test site must consist of a central section surrounded by a substantially flat test area. The measuring section must be level; the test surface must be dry and clean for all measurements. The test surface shall not be artificially cooled during or prior the testing.

The test track must be such that the conditions of a free sound field between the sound source and the microphone are attained to within 1 dB(A). These conditions shall be deemed to be met if there are no large sound reflecting objects such as fences, rocks, bridges or building within 50 m of the centre of the measuring section. The surface of the test track and the dimensions of the test site shall be in accordance with Appendix 2 of this annex.

A central part of at least 10 m radius shall be free of powdery snow, tall grass, loose soil, cinders or the like. There must be no obstacle, which could affect the sound field within the vicinity of the microphone and no persons shall stand between the microphone and the sound source. The operator carrying out the measurements and any observers attending the measurements must position themselves so as not to affect the readings of the measuring instruments.

2.2. Meteorological conditions

Measurements shall not be made under poor atmospheric conditions. It must be ensured that the results are not affected by gusts of wind. Testing shall not be performed if the wind speed at the microphone height exceeds 5 m/s.

Measurements shall not be made if the air temperature is below 5 °C or above 40 °C or the test surface temperature is below 5 °C or above 50 °C.

2.3. Ambient noise

2.3.1. The background sound level (including any wind noise) shall be at least 10 dB(A) less than the measured tyre rolling sound emission. A suitable windscreen may be fitted to the microphone provided that account is taken of its effect on the sensitivity and directional characteristics of the microphone.

2.3.2. Any measurement affected by a sound peak which appears to be unrelated to the characteristics of the general sound level of tyres, shall be ignored.

2.4. Test vehicle requirements

2.4.1. General

The test vehicle shall be a motor vehicle and be fitted with four single tyres on just two axles.

2.4.2. Vehicle load

The vehicle must be loaded such as to comply with the test tyre loads as specified in paragraph 2.5.2. below.

2.4.3. Wheelbase

The wheelbase between the two axles fitted with the test tyres shall for Class C1 be less than 3.50 m and for Class C2 and Class C3 tyres be less than 5 m.

2.4.4. Measures to minimize vehicle influence on sound level measurements

To ensure that tyre rolling sound is not significantly affected by the test vehicle design the following requirements and recommendations are given.

2.4.4.1. Requirements

- (a) Spray suppression flaps or other extra device to suppress spray shall not be fitted.
- (b) Addition or retention of elements in the immediate vicinity of the rims and tyres, which may screen the emitted sound, is not permitted.
- (c) Wheel alignment (toe in, camber and caster) shall be in full accordance with the vehicle manufacturer's recommendations.
- (d) Additional sound absorbing material may not be mounted in the wheel housings or under the underbody.
- (e) Suspension shall be in such a condition that it does not result in an abnormal reduction in ground clearance when the vehicle is loaded in accordance with the testing requirement. If available, body level regulation systems shall be adjusted to give a ground clearance during testing which is normal for unladen condition.

2.4.4.2. Recommendations to avoid parasitic noise

- (a) Removal or modification on the vehicle that may contribute to the background noise of the vehicle is recommended. Any removals or modifications shall be recorded in the test report.

- (b) During testing it should be ascertained that brakes are not poorly released, causing brake noise.
- (c) It should be ascertained that electric cooling fans are not operating.
- (d) Windows and sliding roof of the vehicle shall be closed during testing.

2.5. Tyres

2.5.1. General

Four identical tyres shall be fitted on the test vehicle. In the case of tyres with a load capacity index in excess of 121 and without any dual fitting indication, two of these tyres of the same type and range must be fitted to the rear axle of the test vehicle; the front axle must be fitted with tyres of size suitable for the axle load and planed down to the minimum depth in order to minimize the influence of tyre/road contact noise while maintaining a sufficient level of safety. Winter tyres that in certain Contracting Parties may be equipped with studs intended to enhance friction shall be tested without this equipment. Tyres with special fitting requirements shall be tested in accordance with these requirements (e.g. rotation direction). The tyres must have full tread depth before being run-in.

Tyres are to be tested on rims permitted by the tyre manufacturer.

2.5.2. Tyre loads

The test load Q_t for each tyre on the test vehicle shall be 50 to 90 per cent of the reference load Q_r , but the average test load $Q_{t,avr}$ of all tyres shall be 75 ± 5 per cent of the reference load Q_r .

For all tyres the reference load Q_r corresponds to the maximum mass associated with the load capacity index of the tyre. In the case where the load capacity index is constituted by two numbers divided by slash (/), reference shall be made to the first number.

2.5.3. Tyre inflation pressure

Each tyre fitted on the test vehicle shall have a test pressure P_t not higher than the reference pressure P_r and within the interval:

$$P_r \cdot \left(\frac{Q_t}{Q_r} \right)^{1.25} \leq P_t \leq 1.1 P_r \cdot \left(\frac{Q_t}{Q_r} \right)^{1.25}$$

For Class C2 and Class C3 the reference pressure P_r is the pressure corresponding to the pressure index marked on the sidewall.

For Class C1 the reference pressure is $P_r = 250$ kPa for "standard" tyres and 290 kPa for "reinforced" tyres; the minimum test pressure shall be $P_t = 150$ kPa.

2.5.4. Preparations prior to testing

The tyres shall be "run-in" prior to testing to remove compound nodules or other tyre pattern characteristics resulting from the moulding process. This will normally require the equivalent of about 100 km of normal use on the road.

The tyres fitted to the test vehicle shall rotate in the same direction as when they were run-in.

Prior to testing tyres shall be warmed up by running under test conditions.

3. Method of testing

3.1. General conditions

For all measurements the vehicle must be driven in a straight line over the measuring section (AA' to BB') in such a way that the median longitudinal plane of the vehicle is as close as possible to the line CC'.

When the front end of the test vehicle has reached the line AA', the vehicle's driver must have put the gear selector on neutral position and switched off the engine. If abnormal noise (e.g. ventilator, self-ignition) is emitted by the test vehicle during the measurement, the test must be disregarded.

3.2. Nature and number of measurements

The maximum sound level expressed in A-weighted decibels (dB(A)) shall be measured to the first decimal place as the vehicle is coasting between lines AA' and BB' (figure 1 - front end of the vehicle on line AA', rear end of the vehicle on line BB'). This value will constitute the result of the measurement.

At least four measurements shall be made on each side of the test vehicle at test speeds lower than the reference speed specified in paragraph 4.1. and at least four measurements at test speeds higher than the reference speed. The speeds shall be approximately equally spaced over the speed range specified in paragraph 3.3.

3.3. Test speed range

The test vehicle speeds shall be within the range:

- (i) from 70 to 90 km/h for Class C1 and Class C2 tyres;

(ii) from 60 to 80 km/h for Class C3 tyres.

4. Interpretation of results

The measurement shall be invalid if an abnormal discrepancy between the values is recorded (see para. 2.3.2. of this annex).

4.1. Determination of test result

Reference speed V_{ref} used to determine the final result will be:

(i) 80 km/h for Class C1 and Class C2 tyres,

(ii) 70 km/h for Class C3 tyres.

4.2. Regression analysis of rolling sound measurements

The tyre-road rolling sound level L_R in dB(A) is determined by a regression analysis according to:

$$L_R = \bar{L} - a \cdot \bar{v}$$

where:

\bar{L} is the mean value of the rolling sound levels L_i , measured in dB(A):

$$\bar{L} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n L_i$$

n is the measurement number ($n \geq 16$),

\bar{v} is the mean value of logarithms of speeds V_i :

$$\bar{v} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n v_i \quad \text{with} \quad v_i = \lg(V_i / V_{\text{ref}})$$

a is the slope of the regression line in dB(A):

$$a = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (v_i - \bar{v})(L_i - \bar{L})}{\sum_{i=1}^n (v_i - \bar{v})^2}$$

4.3. Temperature correction

For Class C1 and Class C2 tyres, the final result shall be normalized to a test surface reference temperature ϑ_{ref} by applying a temperature correction, according to the following:

$$L_R(\vartheta_{\text{ref}}) = L_R(\vartheta) + K(\vartheta_{\text{ref}} - \vartheta)$$

where ϑ = the measured test surface temperature,
 ϑ_{ref} = 20 °C,

For Class C1 tyres, the coefficient K is -0.03 dB(A)/°C,
when $\vartheta > \vartheta_{\text{ref}}$ and -0.06 dB(A)/°C when $\vartheta < \vartheta_{\text{ref}}$.

For Class C2 tyres, the coefficient K is -0.02 dB(A)/°C

If the measured test surface temperature does not change more than 5 °C within all measurements necessary for the determination of the sound level of one set of tyres, the temperature correction may be made only on the final reported tyre rolling sound level as indicated above, utilizing the arithmetic mean value of the measured temperatures. Otherwise each measured sound level L_i shall be corrected, utilizing the temperature at the time of the sound recording.

There will be no temperature correction for Class C3 tyres.

- 4.4. In order to take account of any measuring instrument inaccuracies, the results according to paragraph 4.3. shall be reduced by 1 dB(A).
- 4.5. The final result, the temperature corrected tyre rolling sound level $L_R(\vartheta_{\text{ref}})$ in dB(A), shall be rounded down to the nearest lower whole value.

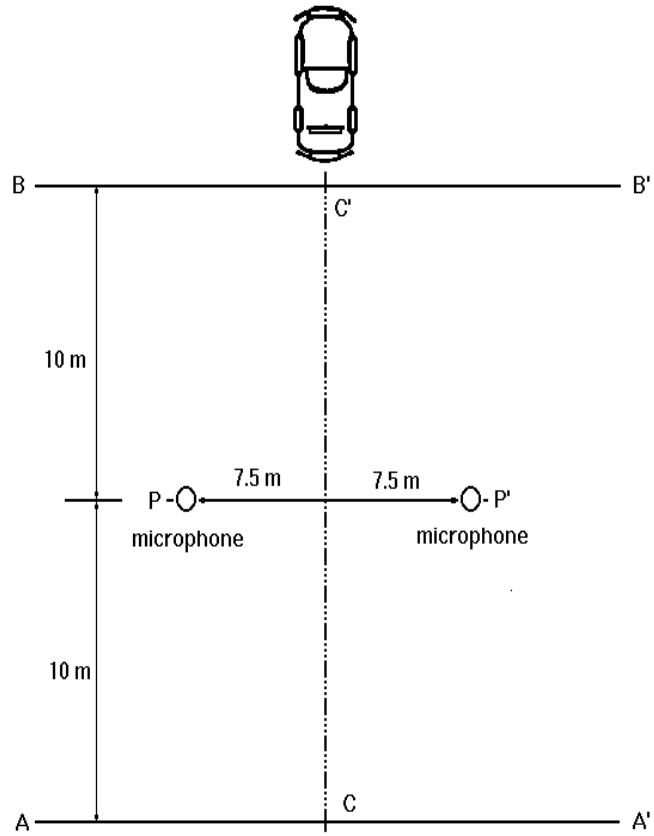


Figure 1: Microphone positions for the measurement

Annex 3 – Appendix

TEST REPORT

Part 1 - Report

1. Type approval authority or Technical Service:
2. Name and address of applicant:
.....
3. Test report No.:
4. Manufacturer and Brand Name or Trade description:
5. Tyre Class (C1, C2 or C3):
6. Category of use:
7. Sound level according to paras. 4.4. and 4.5. of Annex 3:dB(A)
at reference speed of 70/80 km/h 1/
8. Comments (if any):
.....
.....
9. Date:
10. Signature:

Part 2 – Test data

1. Date of test:
2. Test vehicle (Make, model, year, modifications, etc.):
.....
.....
- 2.1. Test vehicle wheelbase: mm

- 5.1. Regression line slope:
- 5.2. Sound level after temperature correction according to para. 4.3. of Annex 3: dB(A)

- 1/ Strike out what does not apply.
- 2/ Relative to the vehicle

Annex 4

SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE TEST SITE

1. Introduction

This appendix describes the specifications relating to the physical characteristics and the laying of the test track. These specifications based on a special standard 1/ describe the required physical characteristics as well as the test methods for these characteristics.

2. Required characteristics of the surface

A surface is considered to conform to this standard provided that the texture and voids content or sound absorption coefficient have been measured and found to fulfil all the requirements of paragraphs 2.1. to 2.4. below and provided that the design requirements (para.3.2.) have been met.

2.1. Residual voids content

The residual voids content (VC) of the test track paving mixture shall not exceed 8 per cent. For the measurement procedure, see paragraph 4.1.

2.2. Sound absorption coefficient

If the surface fails to comply with the residual voids content requirement, the surface is acceptable only if its sound absorption coefficient $\alpha \leq 0.10$. For the measurement procedure, see paragraph 4.2. The requirement of paragraphs 2.1. and 2.2. is met also if only sound absorption has been measured and found to be $\alpha \leq 0.10$.

Note: The most relevant characteristic is the sound absorption, although the residual voids content is more familiar among road constructors. However, sound absorption needs to be measured only if the surface fails to comply with the voids requirement. This is motivated because the latter is connected with relatively large uncertainties in terms of both measurements and relevance and some surfaces therefore erroneously may be rejected when based only on the voids measurement.

2.3. Texture depth

The texture depth (TD) measured according to the volumetric method (see paragraph 4.3. below) shall be:

$$TD \geq 0.4 \text{ mm}$$

1/ ISO 10844:1994. If a different test surface is defined, in the future, the reference standard will be amended accordingly.

2.4. Homogeneity of the surface

Every practical effort shall be taken to ensure that the surface is made to be as homogeneous as possible within the test area. This includes the texture and voids content, but it should also be observed that if the rolling process results in more effective rolling at some places than others, the texture may be different and unevenness causing bumps may also occur.

2.5. Period of testing

In order to check whether the surface continues to conform to the texture and voids content or sound absorption requirements stipulated in this standard, periodic testing of the surface shall be done at the following intervals:

- (a) For residual voids content (VC) or sound absorption (α):

when the surface is new;

if the surface meets the requirements when new, no further periodical testing is required. If it does not meet the requirement when it is new, it may do later because surfaces tend to become clogged and compacted with time.

- (b) For texture depth (TD):

when the surface is new;

when the noise testing starts (NB: not before four weeks after laying);

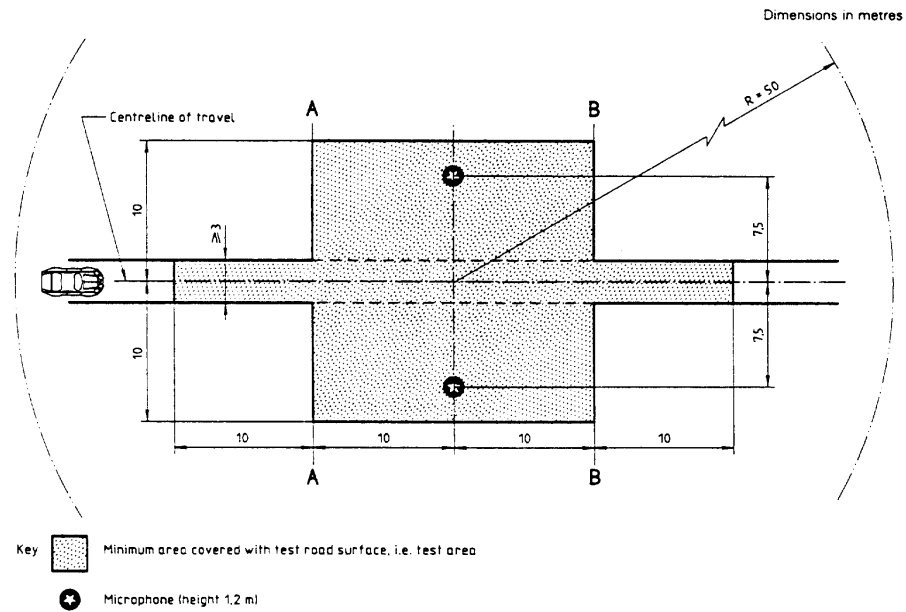
then every twelve months.

3. Test surface design

3.1. Area

When designing the test track layout it is important to ensure that, as a minimum requirement, the area traversed by the vehicles running through the test strip is covered with the specified test material with suitable margins for safe and practical driving. This will require that the width of the track is at least 3 m and the length of the track extends beyond lines AA and BB by at least 10 m at either end. Figure 1 shows a plan of a suitable test site and indicates the minimum area which shall be machine laid and machine compacted with the specified test surface material. According to Annex 3, paragraph 3.2., measurements have to be made on each side of the vehicle. This can be made either by measuring with two microphone locations (one on each side of the track) and driving in one direction, or measuring with a microphone only on one side of the

track but driving the vehicle in two directions. If the latter method is used, then there are no surface requirements on that side of the track where there is no microphone.



NOTE — There shall be no large acoustically reflective objects within this radius.

Figure 1: Minimum requirements for test surface area
The shaded part is called "Test Area".

3.2. Design and preparation of the surface

3.2.1. Basic design requirements

The test surface shall meet four design requirements:

- 3.2.1.1. It shall be a dense asphaltic concrete.
- 3.2.1.2. The maximum chipping size shall be 8 mm (tolerances allow from 6.3 mm to 10 mm).
- 3.2.1.3. The thickness of the wearing course shall be ≥ 30 mm.
- 3.2.1.4. The binder shall be a straight penetration grade bitumen without modification.
- 3.2.2. Design guidelines

As a guide to the surface constructor, an aggregate grading curve which will give desired characteristics is shown in Figure 2. In addition, Table 1 gives some guidelines in order to obtain the desired texture and durability. The grading curve fits the following formula:

$$P (\% \text{ passing}) = 100 \cdot (d/d_{\max})^{1/2}$$

where:

- d = square mesh sieve size, in mm
- d_{\max} = 8 mm for the mean curve
- = 10 mm for the lower tolerance curve
- = 6.3 mm for the upper tolerance curve

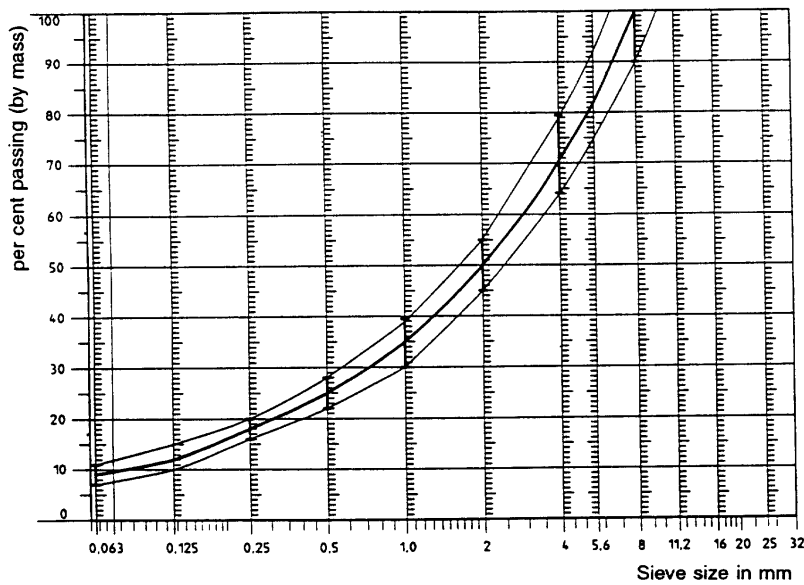


Figure 2: Grading curve of the aggregate in the asphaltic mix with tolerances.

In addition to the above, the following recommendations are given:

- (a) The sand fraction (0.063 mm < square mesh sieve size < 2 mm) shall include no more than 55 % natural sand and at least 45 % crushed sand.
- (b) The base and sub-base shall ensure a good stability and evenness, according to best road construction practice.
- (c) The chippings shall be crushed (100 % crushed faces) and of a material with a high resistance to crushing.
- (d) The chippings used in the mix shall be washed.
- (e) No extra chippings shall be added onto the surface.
- (f) The binder hardness expressed as PEN value shall be 40-60, 60-80 or even 80-100 depending on the climatic conditions of the country. The rule is that as hard a binder as possible shall be used, provided this is consistent with common practice.
- (g) The temperature of the mix before rolling shall be chosen so as to achieve by subsequent rolling the required voids content. In order to increase the probability of satisfying the specifications of paragraphs 2.1. to 2.4. above, the compactness shall be studied not only by an appropriate choice of mixing temperature, but also by an appropriate number of passings and by the choice of compacting vehicle.

Table 1: Design guidelines

	Target values		Tolerances
	By total mass of mix	By mass of the aggregate	
Mass of stones, square mesh sieve (SM) > 2 mm	47.6 %	50.5 %	± 5
Mass of sand 0.063 < SM < 2 mm	38.0 %	40.2 %	± 5
Mass of filler SM < 0.063 mm	8.8 %	9.3 %	± 5
Mass of binder (bitumen)	5.8 %	N.A.	± 0.5
Max. chipping size	8 mm		6.3 - 10
Binder hardness	(see para. 3.2.2. (f))		
Polished stone value (PSV)	> 50		
Compactness, relative to Marshall compactness	98 %		

4. Test method

4.1. Measurement of the residual voids content

For the purpose of this measurement, cores have to be taken from the track in at least four different positions, which are equally distributed in the test area between lines AA and BB (see figure 1). In order to avoid inhomogeneity and unevenness in the wheel tracks, cores should not be taken in wheel tracks themselves, but close to them. Two cores (minimum) should be taken close to the wheel tracks and one core (minimum) should be taken approximately midway between the wheel tracks and each microphone location.

If there is a suspicion that the condition of homogeneity is not met (see paragraph 2.4.), cores shall be taken from more locations within the test area.

The residual voids content has to be determined for each core, then the average value from all cores shall be calculated and compared with the requirement of paragraph 2.1. In addition, no single core shall have a voids value, which is higher than 10 per cent.

The test surface constructor is reminded of the problem, which may arise when the test area is heated by pipes or electrical wires and cores must be taken from this area. Such installations must be carefully planned with respect to future core drilling locations. It is recommended to leave a few locations of size approximately 200 mm x 300 mm where there are no wires/pipes or where the latter are located deep enough in order not to be damaged by cores taken from the surface layer.

4.2. Sound absorption coefficient

The sound absorption coefficient (normal incidence) shall be measured by the impedance tube method using the procedure specified in ISO 10534-1:1996 or ISO 10534-2:1998.

Regarding test specimens, the same requirements shall be followed as regarding the residual voids content (see paragraph 4.1.). The sound absorption shall be measured in the range between 400 Hz and 800 Hz and in the range between 800 Hz and 1,600 Hz (at least at the centre frequencies of third octave bands) and the maximum values shall be identified for both of these frequency ranges. Then these values, for all test cores, shall be averaged to constitute the final result.

4.3. Volumetric macrotexture measurement

For the purpose of this standard, texture depth measurements shall be made on at least 10 positions evenly spaced along the wheel tracks of the test strip and the average value taken to compare with the specified minimum texture depth. See Standard ISO 10844:1994 for description of the procedure.

5. Stability in time and maintenance

5.1. Age influence

In common with any other surfaces, it is expected that the tyre rolling sound level measured on the test surface may increase slightly during the first 6 - 12 months after construction.

The surface will achieve its required characteristics not earlier than four weeks after construction. The influence of age on the noise from trucks is generally less than that from cars.

The stability over time is determined mainly by the polishing and compaction by vehicles driving on the surface. It shall be periodically checked as stated in paragraph 2.5.

5.2. Maintenance of the surface

Loose debris or dust, which could significantly reduce the effective texture depth must be removed from the surface. In countries with winter climates, salt is sometimes used for de-icing. Salt may alter the surface temporarily or even permanently in such a way as to increase noise and is therefore not recommended.

5.3. Repaving the test area

If it is necessary to repave the test track, it is usually unnecessary to repave more than the test strip (of 3 m width in figure 1) where vehicles are driving, provided the test area outside the strip met the requirement of residual voids content or sound absorption when it was measured.

6. Documentation of the test surface and of tests performed on it

6.1. Documentation of the test surface

The following data shall be given in a document describing the test surface:

6.1.1. The location of the test track.

6.1.2. Type of binder, binder hardness, type of aggregate, maximum theoretical density of the concrete (DR), thickness of the wearing course and grading curve determined from cores from the test track.

6.1.3. Method of compaction (e.g. type of roller, roller mass, number of passes).

6.1.4. Temperature of the mix, temperature of the ambient air and wind speed during laying of the surface.

- 6.1.5. Date when the surface was laid and contractor.
- 6.1.6. All or at least the latest test result, including:
 - 6.1.6.1. the residual voids content of each core;
 - 6.1.6.2. the locations in the test area from where the cores for voids measurements have been taken;
 - 6.1.6.3. the sound absorption coefficient of each core (if measured). Specify the results both for each core and each frequency range as well as the overall average;
 - 6.1.6.4. the locations in the test area from where the cores for absorption measurement have been taken;
 - 6.1.6.5. texture depth, including the number of tests and standard deviation;
 - 6.1.6.6. the institution responsible for tests according to paragraphs 6.1.6.1. and 6.1.6.2. and the type of equipment used;
 - 6.1.6.7. date of the test(s) and date when the cores were taken from the test track.
- 6.2. Documentation of vehicle noise tests conducted on the surface

In the document describing the vehicle noise test(s) it shall be stated whether all the requirements of this standard were fulfilled or not. Reference shall be given to a document according to paragraph 6.1. describing the results which verify this.
