

PROPOSAL FOR DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO REGULATION No. 80

Note: The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from the European Commission in order to prohibit the installation of side-facing seats in certain categories of vehicles and to align Regulation No. 80 and Regulation No. 17 where an overlap exists for certain vehicles of category M₂.

The text enclosed is based on that of EC Directive 2005/39/EC as well as Regulation No. 17.

A PROPOSAL

Paragraph 1.1., amend to read:

"1.1.

(c) It does not apply to side-facing or rearward-facing seats or to any head restraint fitted to these seats."

Insert a new paragraph 1.4., to read:

"1.4. The installation of side-facing seats shall be prohibited in vehicles of categories M₂ (of class III or B) and M₃ (of class III or B)."

Paragraph 2.5., amend to read:

"2.5. ... more adult persons. **Depending on its orientation, a seat is defined as follows:**"

Insert new paragraphs 2.5.1. to 2.5.3., to read:

"2.5.1. "Forward-facing seat" means a seat which can be used whilst the vehicle is in motion and which faces towards the front of the vehicle in such a manner that the vertical plane of symmetry of the seat forms an angle of less than +10° or -10° with the vertical plane of symmetry of the vehicle.

2.5.2. "Rearward-facing seat" means a seat which can be used whilst the vehicle is in motion and which faces towards the rear of the vehicle in such a manner that the vertical plane of symmetry of the seat forms an angle of less than +10° or -10° with the vertical plane of symmetry of the vehicle.

2.5.3. "Side-facing seat" means a seat which, with regard to its alignment with the vertical plane of symmetry of the vehicle, does not meet either of the definitions given in paragraphs 2.5.1. or 2.5.2. above."

Paragraph 4.3., amend to read:

"...first two digits (at present **02**, corresponding to the **02** series of amendments) shall indicate..."

Insert a new paragraph 5.5., to read:

"5.5. A head restraint shall be mounted on every outboard front seat in every vehicle of category M2 with a maximum mass not exceeding 3500 kg. This head restraint shall comply with the requirements of Regulation No. 25, as amended by the 03 series of amendments."

Paragraphs 12.1. to 12.3., amend to read:

"12.1. As from the official date of entry into force of the 02 series of amendments, no Contracting Party applying this Regulation shall refuse to grant ECE approvals under this Regulation as amended by the 02 series of amendments.

12.2. As from [1 November 2012] Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall grant ECE approvals only if the requirements of this Regulation, as amended by the 02 series of amendments, are satisfied.

12.3. As from [1 November 2014], Contracting Parties applying this Regulation may refuse to recognize approvals of vehicles with regard to the strength of seat anchorages, which were not granted in accordance with the 02 series of amendments to this Regulation."

Annex 3, paragraph 1., amend to read:

"...amended by the **02** series of amendments."

Annex 3, paragraph 2., amend to read:

"...amended by the **02** series of amendments."

B JUSTIFICATION

At present the requirements for headrests on front outboard seats in vehicles of category M₂ are different between Regulations No. 80 and 17 and should be brought in line with that of the latter. In addition, research has shown that it is not possible to provide side-facing seats with safety belts ensuring the same level of safety to the occupants as front-facing seats. For safety reasons, it is necessary to ban those seats in certain categories of vehicles.
