



GUIDANCE NOTES – TRAILER CONSTRUCTION & ROADWORTHINESS REPORT

This guidance note is intended to be used by a qualified mechanic or an engineer (in a relevant field) when producing a construction and roadworthiness report in connection with an application to register a trailer intended to be taken into International Traffic*. A report of this type is only required where a Type Approval number or equivalent **does not** exist for the trailer.

The report is required to ensure that the trailer, as a minimum, meets the construction standards as detailed in the following legislation:-

The Road Traffic (Construction and Use of Motor vehicles) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1971, as amended – C&U71

The Road Traffic (Construction and Use of Motor vehicles) Ordinance, 2002, as amended – C&U02

The Lighting of Vehicles and Skips Ordinance, 1988, as amended – LVSO

The Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) (Rear Under-Run Protection and Sideguards) Regulations, 2019 – UR&SG19

The report must cover the following matters:-

- 1) The qualifications and experience of the author
- 2) Some narrative that the trailer is suitably constructed for the use for which it is intended and maximum weight it is plated to carry – Section 9B (1) C&U02
- 3) There are no unnecessary projections that could cause a danger – Section 9B (2) C&U02

- 4) Confirmation that side guard and/or underrun devices are fitted (if required) – Section 9F C&U02 & UR&SG19
- 5) Confirmation that a trailer identification plate is fitted that includes as a minimum the manufacturer's name, chassis or serial number, number of axles, maximum axle weight(s), maximum gross weight and maximum load imposed on the towing vehicle – Section 1 (1) C&U71
- 6) Confirmation that the tyres fitted are appropriate when the maximum gross weight of the trailer is taken into account – Section 3 (1) (a) C&U71
- 7) Confirmation that the trailer is fitted with service brakes capable of being applied to all wheels of the trailer, a parking brake and an emergency brake if its maximum gross weight exceeds 1,500kg. 5B/C C&U71
- 8) Confirmation that the trailer has suitably positioned working front and rear position lamps, brake lamps, indicators, reflectors, number plate lamps and stop lamps – Section 21 LVSO
- 9) Confirmation that the trailer has been constructed in order that it is unlikely that lamps, reflectors and registration plates will be obstructed when carrying a load – Section 8 (b) (v) C&U02
- 10) Declaration that the trailer has been thoroughly checked over and appears in a roadworthy condition – Section 8 (1) (a) C&U02
- 11) Signature of the mechanic/engineer

* International Traffic is a Contracting Party to the Vienna Convention on Road Traffic 1968

Should you require any further information regarding this guidance note, please contact Driver and Vehicle Licensing as per the contact information above.