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AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

MOTOR TRAFFIC ACT 1936

VEHICLE INSPECTION MANUAL

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Circulated by the Authority of the Registrar of Motor Vehicles

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MOTOR TRAFFIC ACT 1936

VEHICLE INSPECTION MANUAL

OUTLINE

The *Motor Traffic Act 1936* (hereafter the Act) requires the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to prepare and maintain a Vehicle Inspection Manual (hereafter the Manual) for the purposes of conducting inspections and tests under the Act. A copy of the Manual is held in the offices of the Registrar of Motor Vehicles and arrangements are being made to lodge a copy with the Parliamentary Library Service.

The Manual consists of a number of documents that in combination provide the inspection standards which vehicles are required to meet for purposes of the Act. The Manual sets and maintains the inspection standards that are applied at the Government vehicle inspection station at Dickson and approved premises. As the Manual is in several parts and authorised examiners and approved premises may not be appointed or approved to perform inspections or tests on all classes of vehicles only those parts of the Manual relevant to those classes of vehicles to which approval or appointment is related are relevant.

A number of the parts of the Manual are technically very complex dealing with a range of vehicle parts and systems and vehicles as a whole in dynamic situations. Details about applicability to vehicles and parts and equipment are specified in individual documents and will not be elaborated on in this explanatory statement.

DETAILS

ACT Motor Vehicle Registry Inspection Manual 1985, published by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles and available from Road User Services, 13 - 15 Challis Street, Dickson ACT 2602: describes in-service requirements for most vehicles including wear limits for most components subject to degradation over time. Pass and fail criteria are included.

Australian Design Rules (ADRs) for Motor Vehicle Safety 2nd Edition, published by and available from the Federal Office of Road Safety, GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601: describes construction standards that must be maintained for vehicles manufactured after 1 February 1972 and before 1 July 1988.

Australian Design Rules (ADRs) for Motor Vehicles and Trailers 3rd Edition, published by and available from the Federal Office of Road Safety, GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601: describes construction standards that must be maintained for vehicles manufactured on or after 1 July 1988.

Registrar of Motor Vehicles Technical Instructions numbered 1 through 80, published by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles and available from Road User Services, 13 - 15 Challis Street, Dickson ACT 2602: describe in-service requirements for various parts, components and vehicles that have altered since the publication of the 1985 Vehicle Inspection Manual.

Vehicle Standards Bulletin No. 1 - Building Small Trailers, published by the Federal Office of Road Safety and available from Road User Services, 13 - 15 Challis Street, Dickson Act 2602: describes in plain English the technical or ADR requirements which small trailers must meet.

Vehicle Standards Bulletin No. 2 - Maximum Road Speed Limiting for Heavy Vehicles, published by the Federal Office of Road Safety and available from Road User Services, 13 - 15 Challis Street, Dickson Act 2602: describes the technical requirements with which vehicles subject to speed limit restrictions must comply.

Vehicle Standards Bulletin No. 4 - Steering Conversions for Left Hand Drive Vehicles, published by the Federal Office of Road Safety and available from Road User Services, 13 - 15 Challis Street, Dickson Act 2602: describes the technical requirements acceptable to all Australian registration authorities for converting the steering of a vehicle from the left side to the right side of a vehicle.

Vehicle Standards Bulletin No. 5 - Manufacture of Additional Seats, published by the Federal Office of Road Safety and available from Road User Services, 13 - 15 Challis Street, Dickson Act 2602: describes technical requirements acceptable to all Australian registering authorities for the manufacture of additional seats for vehicles in service.

Vehicle Standards Bulletin No. 5A - Commercial Manufacture and Installation of Additional Seats, published by the Federal Office of Road Safety and available from Road User Services, 13 - 15 Challis Street, Dickson Act 2602: describes the technical requirements acceptable to all Australian registering authorities for installing additional seats in vehicles. This document also describes the seat and vehicle marking requirements that must be met where the additional seats are manufactured and installed by commercial operators.

Vehicle Standards Bulletin No. 6 - Heavy Vehicle Modifications, published by the Federal Office of Road Safety and available from the Government Info Shop, 10 Mort Street, Canberra ACT 2601: describes methods acceptable to all Australian registering authorities for the modification of heavy (over 4.5 tonnes Gross Vehicle Mass) vehicles.

Vehicle Standards Bulletin No. 9 - Installation of Lights on Road Vehicles, published by the Federal Office of Road Safety and available from Road User Services, 13 - 15 Challis Street, Dickson Act 2602: describes in plain English the ADR requirements for installation of lights in road vehicles.

Road Transport Reform (Heavy Vehicle Standards) Regulations (Cth) made under the Road Transport Reform (Vehicles and Traffic) Act 1993 (Cth), available from the Government Info Shop, 10 Mort Street, Canberra ACT 2601: describes the construction and in-services requirements for vehicles over 4.5 tonnes Gross Vehicle Mass, including the construction requirements for vehicles manufactured prior to the commencement of the Australian Design Rules for Motor Vehicle Safety 2nd Edition.