

# VIRM: In-service certification (WoF and CoF) amendment

1 October 2022 amendment preview

September 2022

## General vehicles

### 1-1 VIN and chassis number

This change removes the requirement for a vehicle inspector to notify the NZ Police if a vehicle is identified as having a tampered VIN. The existing process of notifying Waka Kotahi remains and they will notify NZ Police when necessary.

**Note:** this change also occurs in the heavy vehicles, light passenger service vehicles, heavy passenger service vehicles, motorcycles, and heavy trailer sections.

#### Note 1

The vehicle inspector must notify Waka Kotahi using the **VIN approval request form (CA01)** if there is reason to believe that the VIN or chassis number has been tampered with in any way.

The vehicle inspector must not issue a WoF/CoF/permit until approved by Waka Kotahi. Approval will usually include the issue or re-issue of a new VIN plate.

The vehicle inspector must not issue a WoF/CoF/permit if there is reason to believe that the VIN or chassis number has been tampered with in any way.

Refer the vehicle to a VIN issuing agent (**VTNZ, VINZ, NZAA, Drivesure**). They will inspect the vehicle and seek approval from Waka Kotahi to issue or re-issue a VIN plate. Once the vehicle has been approved the vehicle may continue through the inspection process.

**VIN approval request form (CA01)**

## 7-5 Seatbelts and seatbelt anchorages

This change replaces the words 'as many or more' with 'at least as many' to provide consistent wording from the Rule to the VIRM.

**Table 7-5-4. Requirements for specific motor vehicles**

Specific vehicles	Mandatory equipment
Motorhomes ( <b>Note 11</b> )	<p>7. Motorhomes manufactured prior to 1 October 2003 or motor vehicles converted to motorhomes prior to 1 October 2003 must have seatbelts fitted that are appropriate for the class of vehicle in which the vehicle was registered when it was registered as a motorhome.</p> <p>8. Motorhomes manufactured from 1 October 2003 or motor vehicles converted to motorhomes from 1 October 2003 must be fitted with the following seatbelts and notice:</p> <p>a) front seating positions: seatbelts must be fitted as specified for class MB vehicles in <b>Table 7-5-3</b></p> <p>b) rear seating positions: <del>as many or more</del> at least as many lap (type L) or lap-and-diagonal (type R1 or R2) seatbelts as there are sleeping berths minus the number of front seating positions.</p> <p>c) a notice must be displayed in a prominent location that recommends, on safety grounds, that when the vehicle is travelling, passengers use seats that are fitted with seatbelts, and that advises passengers that it is compulsory to wear fitted seatbelts.</p>

## 7-12 Speedometer

This change clarifies for vehicle inspectors what to enter into WoF online or LANDATA, and the inspection check sheet when an odometer reading is unreadable.

**Note:** this change also occurs in the heavy vehicles, light passenger service vehicles, heavy passenger service vehicles, motorcycles, forklifts, tractors, and unclassified vehicles sections.

Reasons for rejection	Summary of legislation
<p><b>Condition and performance</b></p> <p>2. The speedometer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) does not operate as intended when the vehicle is moving forward (<b>Note 3</b>), or</li> <li>b) is obscured from the driver's position, or</li> <li>c) does not indicate the vehicle's speed in km/h or mph.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Note 3</b></p> <p>If an odometer is not fitted, not working or unable to be read an appropriate note must be entered into the 'Comments' section of the checksheet and '000001' entered into the odometer field of the checksheet and '000001' entered into WoF online or LANDATA. This may display as "1" on some screens.</p>

## 10-1 Tyres and wheels

The identification of winter tyres is being inconsistently applied at WoF and CoF inspections which could result in vehicles with mismatched tyres being passed, creating a potential safety risk. This change clarifies that any tyre that is not an as stipulated winter tyre (eg mud and snow tyre, all terrain tyre) is referred to the tyre manufacturer or representative for evidence of compliance.

Note: this change also occurs on the light passenger service vehicles section.

### Note 3

**Winter tyre:** A winter tyre can be identified by its distinctive tyre tread pattern, soft tread blocks, with wavy sipes. ~~means a tyre which~~ It is principally designed to be operated at temperatures below 7 (degrees) C. ~~and which may include a symbol depicting a snowflake and a mountain, or the word 'studless', marked in the sidewall, or both. Alternatively a winter tyre can be identified by its distinctive tyre tread pattern consisting of tread blocks with wavy sipes~~ When marked with the 3 Peaks Mountain and Snowflake Symbol (3PMSF) and the word "Studded" or "Studless" it is considered to be a winter tyre (see [Figure 10-1-3](#)).

Tyres marked different from above but with the 3PMSF symbol may be made for mud and snow but are not principally designed as winter tyres and should not be mixed with winter tyres. These tyres should be rejected if mixed with winter tyres unless evidence of principal design can be provided.

Evidence of ~~the classification of a tyre~~ principal design may ~~also~~ be accepted in the form of a manufacturers' brochure, the manufacturers' web page, a letter from an agent of the manufacturer or a letter from the manufacturer. This should be kept on file by the inspecting organisation.

- ~~A tyre with the 3 Peaks Mountain and Snowflake Symbol (3PMSF) is always considered to be a winter tyre~~
- ~~A tyre with the words "Studded" or "Studless" is always considered to be a winter tyre~~
- ~~A tyre marked with M+S is only a winter tyre if it also has the markings above (see [Figure 10-1-3](#))~~

- For more information on winter tyres see the Waka Kotahi [winter tyres pamphlet](#)

# Heavy vehicles

## 7-5 Seatbelts and seatbelt anchorages

This change replaces the words 'as many or more' with 'at least as many' to provide consistent wording from the Rule to the VIRM.

**Table 7-5-7. Seatbelt requirements for heavy vehicles (first registered in New Zealand from 1 April 2002) and all heavy motorhomes (first registered anytime)**

Vehicle class	Seating position	Manufactured <sup>3</sup>	
		before 1 October 2003	from 1 October 2003
NB, NC	Front outer and driver's	-	R2 <sup>2</sup>
	Front middle	-	L
	Rear outer <sup>1</sup>	-	-
	Rear middle <sup>1</sup>	-	-
Motorhome	Front outer and driver's	-	R2
	Front middle	-	L
	Rear outer <sup>1, 4</sup>	-	R1 or R2 or L
	Rear middle <sup>4</sup>	-	L or S or R1 or R2
	Rear sideways-facing <sup>1, 4</sup>	-	L

<sup>1</sup> A sideways-facing seating position in a vehicle first registered in New Zealand before 1 October 2002 may be fitted with a seatbelt of any type, and in a vehicle first registered from 1 October 2002 may be fitted with a seat belt that is a lapbelt only.

<sup>2</sup> Front type R1 seatbelts may remain fitted if they were fitted as OE and have a declaration issued by a certifier, or a plate affixed to the vehicle in a position approved by Waka Kotahi.

<sup>3</sup> For a motorhome, manufactured means motor vehicles converted to motorhomes as well as manufactured as motorhomes.

<sup>4</sup> Rear seating positions: ~~as many or more~~ at least as many lap (type L) or lap-and-diagonal (type R1 or R2) seatbelts as there are sleeping berths minus the number of front seating positions.