

Land Transport Rule Passenger Service Vehicles

**Consolidated Rule
with amendments incorporated
as at
April 2010**

The consolidation of the Rule and its amendments is intended to provide up-to-date details of the current requirements. It is not the official version of the Rule.

Preface

The consolidated Rule brings together the requirements relating to passenger services vehicles in the principal Rule and its amendments. These Rules were produced, under an agreement with the Secretary for Transport, by the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) or its predecessor land transport Crown entities. They were signed into law by the Minister of Transport or his or her delegate under the *Land Transport Act 1998*

The principal Rule

Land Transport Rule: Passenger Service Vehicles 1999 (the Rule), which came into force on 1 September 1999, specifies the legal requirements for the design and construction of all passenger service vehicles in New Zealand. The definition of ‘passenger service vehicle’ includes privately owned and operated vehicles that have more than 12 seats or that are heavy motor vehicles with more than nine seats.

Amendment 1

Following public consultation, the Rule was amended with effect from 1 April 2006 as a consequence of the transferring of requirements relating to the assigning and affixing of VINs from the *Traffic Regulations 1976* to *Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Standards Compliance Amendment 2005* and the updating of those requirements.

Amendment 2

The Rule was further amended with effect from 29 June 2007 to:

- add new joint Australian and New Zealand standards as alternative standards with which the design and construction of wheelchair hoists, ramps and occupant restraints, and the attachment of hoists and ramps to a passenger service vehicle, must comply; and
- add a standard for equipment fitted in passenger service vehicles to assist visually- or hearing-impaired persons.

Minor amendments were also made to update references to other Rules, and to amend definitions.

Amendment 3

Following public consultation, the Rule was amended with effect from 17 January 2008 :

- to replace the reference in the Rule to safety plans from the Occupational Safety and Health Services (OSH) with a reference to the *Amusement Devices Regulations 1978*, because the Department of Labour (of which OSH is a branch) does not issue or approve safety plans for the operation of motor vehicles or trailers; and
- to correct an incomplete citation of a vehicle standard in the Rule.

Amendment 4

With effect from 7 May 2009, the Rule was amended:

- to allow small passenger service vehicles to retain ‘child safety locks’ provided that a sign, approved by the Agency, is displayed at the outer door handle;
- to correct the wording of the provision relating to seat spacing and include alternative requirements relating to backrests;
- to amend the dimension requirements for the passenger doors of stretch limousines and serial production vehicles;
- to relax the existing height requirement for the floor/door sill of a heavy stretch limousine;
- to specify that the aisle height in a stretch limousine must be equal to or greater than the height of the doorway(s) serviced by that aisle;
- to relax emergency exit requirements for stretch limousines; and
- to align the Rule with the definition of ‘chassis rating’ in *Land Transport Rule: Heavy Vehicles 2004*.

Amendment 5

With effect from 1 April 2010, the Rule was amended:

- to provide alternative standards to UN/ECE Regulations No. 36 and 52 to enable imported new vehicles to be certified for compliance with the technical requirements in the Rule. This change was made because Regulations No. 36 and 52 have been cancelled by the UN and alternative standards have not yet been legally adopted by New Zealand.