

Roadside inspection guidelines for heavy vehicles

Do your own walk-around before you head out on the road and save time, money and lives.



NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY
WAKA KOTAHI



[New Zealand Government](#)

OUR PURPOSE

CREATING TRANSPORT SOLUTIONS FOR A THRIVING NEW ZEALAND



NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY
WAKA KOTAHI



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NZ Transport Agency

If you have further queries, call our
contact centre on 0800 699 000
or write to us:

NZ Transport Agency
Private Bag 6995
Wellington 6141.

This publication is available on
NZ Transport Agency's website at
www.nzta.govt.nz

Vehicle inspection guidelines for the New Zealand Police and the NZ Transport Agency at roadside or weighbridge inspections provides consistency across the country.

If you are a driver or an operator, you can do a walk-around inspection yourself and have any defects fixed before you head out on the road.

A 10-minute walk-around now could potentially save you time and money later, and could even save your life.

The diagrams in this pamphlet outline what is covered in the walk-around inspection. For more details on a walk-around inspection, see the level 3 inspection in the *Categorisation of defects* at www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/hmv-categorisation-defects/index.html.

Keeping your vehicles roadworthy is a safety issue and a legal requirement – it's not optional.

You are responsible – both driver and operator – for ensuring your vehicle complies with all regulations and safety standards.

How defects are categorised

Defects are categorised in the guidelines as **dangerous**, **serious** or **moderate**, depending on their safety risk. The consequences vary according to the risk to safety that any particular defect may cause.

THE CONSEQUENCES

If a defect is found by the police or the NZTA, the consequences range from:

- an instruction to repair the vehicle
- being parked up
- being issued with a non-operation order (red or green)
- and/or being given an offence notice.

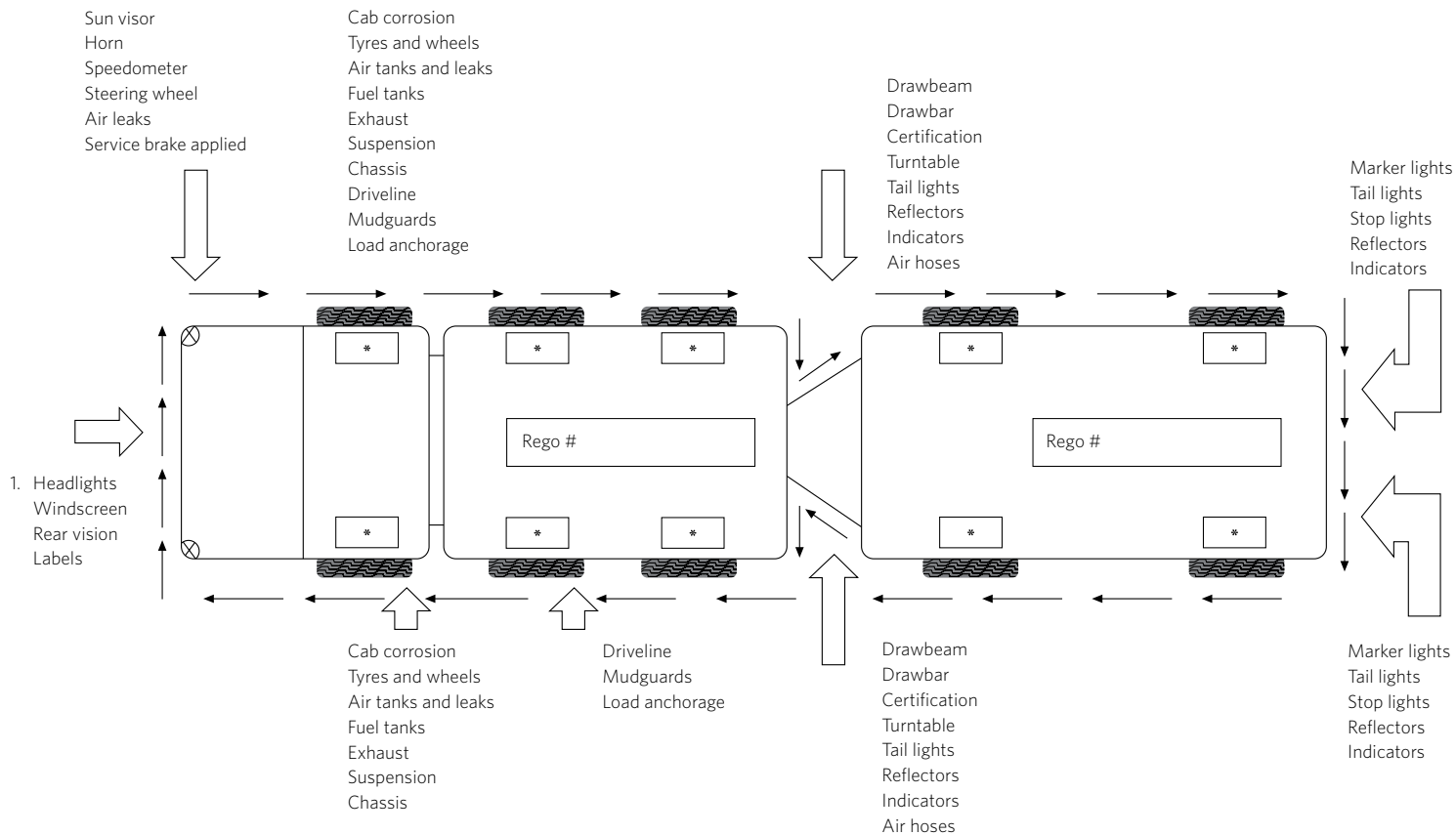
The NZTA website has a full list of the defects in each category and what the consequences may be if a defect is found. Check:

www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/hmv-categorisation-defects.

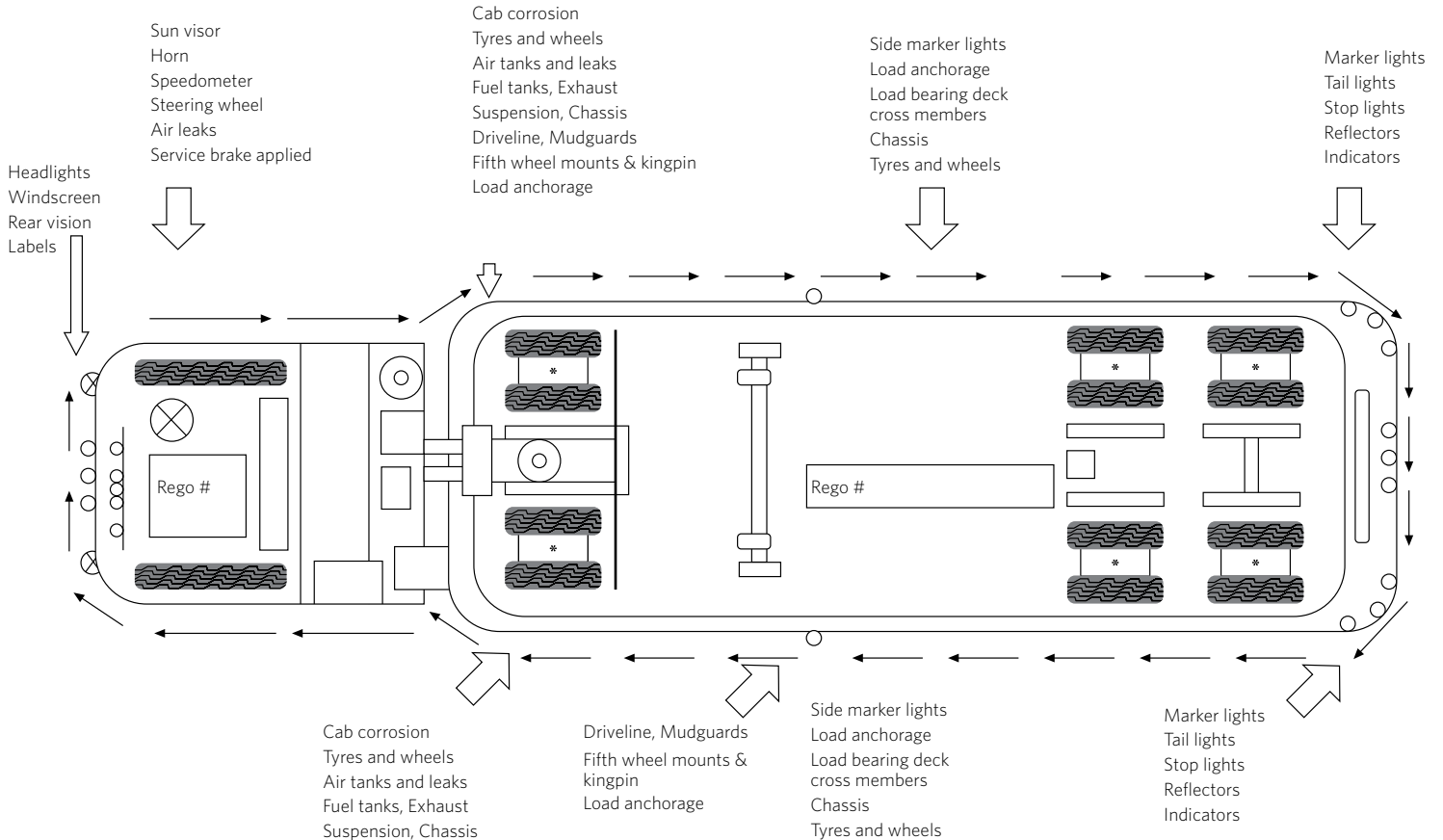


The guidelines are a summary of some legal requirements only and should not be the only vehicle safety information upon which you rely.

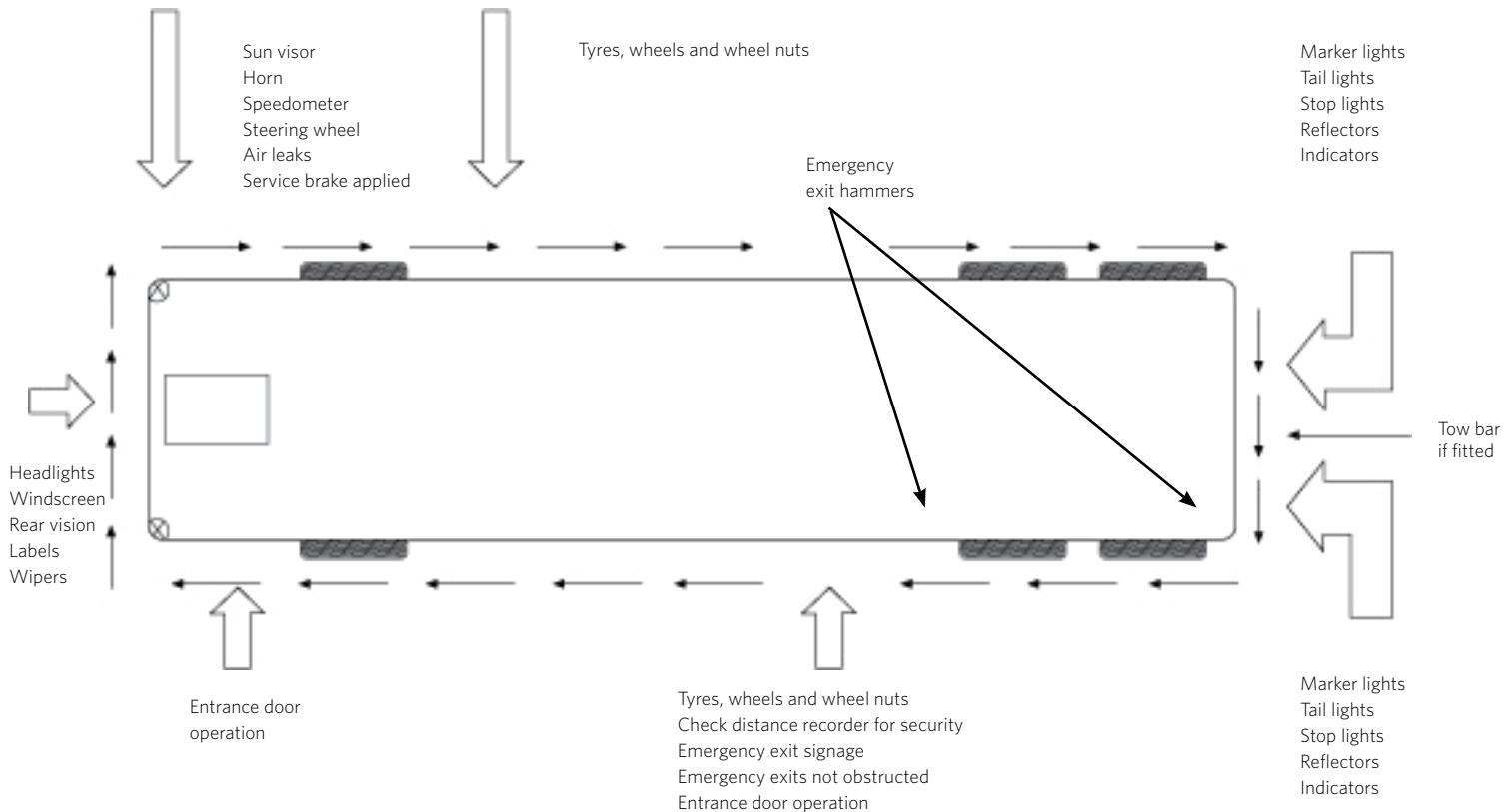
Visual walk-around inspection (truck and trailer)



Visual walk-around inspection (tractor and trailer)



Visual walk-around inspection (bus)



The chances of vehicle safety defects going undetected are reduced now that the Police and the NZTA are using the same guidelines across the country.

Make a walk-around inspection part of your pre-trip routine and have defects fixed before going on the road. It is the smart way to avoid expensive fines and costly down-time resulting from a vehicle being ordered off the road.

The improvements in the inspection process set out in the guidelines have been created through a partnership between the NZTA, the New Zealand Police, the Road Transport Forum and the Bus and Coach Association.



Section 115 of the Land Transport Act 1998 empowers enforcement officers to direct that a vehicle must not be used on a road. The guidelines are to assist with the more consistent application of the section.



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OUR CONTACT DETAILS

NATIONAL OFFICE

Level 2, 50 Victoria Street
Private Bag 6995
Wellington 6141
Telephone: +64 4 894 5400
Fax: +64 4 894 6100
info@nzta.govt.nz