

1972. No. 366

[C]

ROAD VEHICLES

Registration and Licensing

REGULATIONS, DATED 28TH DECEMBER 1972, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTION 24 OF THE VEHICLE (EXCISE) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1954.

The Ministry of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Secretary of State and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by section 24 of the Vehicles (Excise) Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(a) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Road Vehicles (Registration and Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1972 and shall come into operation on 1st January 1973.

(2) In these Regulations the expression “Principal Regulations” means the Road Vehicles (Registration and Licensing) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1947(b).

2. The Principal Regulations shall have effect as though:—

(1) in regulation 31(iv), as amended(c), for the words “An application from . . . are so paid.” there were substituted the following:—

“An application from the owner of a vehicle for which exemption is claimed under section 7(2) or (2A) of the Vehicles (Excise) Act (Northern Ireland) 1972(d), as amended(e), shall be accompanied by a certificate issued by the Ministry of Health and Social Services stating—

- (a) in a case to which section 7(2) of that Act applies, that he has obtained, or is eligible for, a grant under section 27(3) of the Health Services Act (Northern Ireland) 1971(f) in relation to that vehicle; and
- (b) in a case to which section 7(2A) of that Act applies, that—
 - (i) he has a particular disability that so incapacitates him in the use of his limbs that he has to be driven and cared for by a full-time constant attendant, and
 - (ii) he is sufficiently disabled to be eligible under the Health Services Act (Northern Ireland) 1971 for an invalid tricycle if he were not too disabled to drive it.”

(2) the Fifth Schedule, as amended(g), were further amended as follows:—

(a) 1954. c. 17.

(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1947, No. 167.

(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1964, No. 122.

(d) 1972. c. 10 (N.I.).

(e) S.I. 1972, No. 1100 (N.I. 11).

(f) 1971. c. 1 (N.I.)

(g) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1958, No. 3; S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1965, No. 259;

S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1968, No. 37.

- (a) in paragraph 4, 6(b)(ii), 10 and 12(1)(ii) and (2)(ii) for the words "black surface" and "said surface", in each place where they occur, there were substituted the words "surface or background"; and
- (b) for paragraphs 2 and 2A there were substituted the following paragraphs:—

"2. Paragraph 2A shall apply to the registration mark required to be fixed on a vehicle which is first registered on or after 1st January 1973 other than—

- (a) a vehicle having an unladen weight exceeding 3 tons, being a vehicle on which, or on whose load, there is fitted, in accordance with such of the provisions of the Motor Vehicles (Rear Markings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1971(h), as amended(i), as apply in relation to the vehicle or, as the case may be, to its load, a rear marking such as is mentioned in those Regulations;
- (b) a vehicle which is used wholly or mainly as a stage carriage within the meaning of the Public Service Vehicles (Construction) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1960(j), as amended(k); and
- (c) a bicycle, an invalid carriage, a pedestrian controlled vehicle, a works truck and an agricultural machine.

2A. A registration mark to which this paragraph applies shall be exhibited on a plate which is constructed of reflex reflecting material, being a plate which complies with the requirements laid down by the British Standard Specification for Reflex Reflecting Number Plates published on 11th September 1972 under the number B.S. AU 145a and is of a type in respect of which there has been issued by the Secretary of State a certificate that a plate of that type complies with those requirements, and in such a case—

- (a) the registration mark, where it is displayed on the front of the vehicle, shall be formed in black letters and figures upon a white background and where it is displayed on the back of the vehicle shall be formed of black letters and figures upon a yellow background;
- (b) that part of the plate which comprises the said background shall be constructed of reflex reflecting material which shall at all times be maintained in a clean and efficient condition;
- (c) no reflex reflecting material shall be applied to any part of the said letters or figures; and
- (d) there shall be legibly and permanently marked on the plate the specification number B.S. AU 145a to indicate that it complies with the British Standard Specification mentioned above,

but nothing in this paragraph shall apply to the registration mark required to be fixed on a vehicle when that mark, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 23, is displayed on the back of a trailer attached to that vehicle.

(h) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1971, No. 71.
 (i) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1972, No. 195.

(j) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1960, No. 91.
 (k) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1971, No. 316.

2B. The registration mark required to be fixed on the back of any of the following vehicles, that is to say, a bicycle, an invalid carriage or a pedestrian controlled vehicle (being, in any such case, a vehicle first registered on or after 1st January 1973) shall be exhibited on a plate which is constructed of reflex reflecting material, being a plate which complies with the requirements of the British Standard Specification mentioned in paragraph 2A and is of a type in respect of which a certificate such as is mentioned in that paragraph has been issued by the Secretary of State, and in such a case—

- (a) the registration mark shall be formed of black letters and figures upon a yellow background;
- (b) that part of the plate which comprises the said background shall be constructed of reflex reflecting material which shall at all times be maintained in a clean and efficient condition;
- (c) no reflex reflecting material shall be applied to any part of the said letters or figures; and
- (d) there shall be legibly and permanently marked on the plate the specification number B.S. AU 145a to indicate that it complies with the British Standard Specification mentioned in the said paragraph 2A.

2C. Paragraph 2D, 2E and 2F shall apply to the registration mark required to be fixed—

- (a) on a vehicle which is first registered before 1st January 1973; and
- (b) on a vehicle, not being a bicycle, an invalid carriage or a pedestrian controlled vehicle (but subject, in each of those cases, to paragraph 2G) or a vehicle to which paragraph 2A applies, which is first registered on or after that date.

2D. A registration mark to which this paragraph applies shall, except where it is so designed and constructed that it may be illuminated from behind by means of the translucency of the letters and figures comprised in the mark or is exhibited on a plate in accordance with paragraph 2F, be formed of white, silver or light grey letters and figures upon a black surface and every letter and figure shall be indelibly inscribed upon that surface or so attached to the surface that it cannot readily be detached therefrom, and in a case where the letters and figures are exhibited on a flat plate the plate may be constructed of cast or pressed metal having raised letters and figures.

2E. Where a registration mark to which this paragraph applies is so designed and constructed as to be illuminated from behind in the manner mentioned in paragraph 2D, the mark shall be formed of white letters and figures upon a black surface and all the letters and figures shall, when the mark is so illuminated during the hours of darkness, appear white against a black background.

2F. A registration mark to which this paragraph applies may be exhibited on a plate which is constructed of reflex reflecting material and which—

- (a) in the case of the registration mark of a vehicle first registered before 1st January 1973, either complies with the requirements laid down by the British Standard Specification for Reflex Reflecting Number plates published on 31st October 1967 under the number B.S. AU 145: 1967, the plate being permanently and legibly marked with the specification number B.S. AU 145 to indicate that it complies with the said Specification, or complies with the requirements of the British Standard Specification mentioned in paragraph 2A and is of a type in respect of which a certificate such as is mentioned in that paragraph has been issued by the Secretary of State, the plate being permanently and legibly marked as mentioned in sub-paragraph (d) of that paragraph; and
- (b) in the case of the registration mark of a vehicle first registered on or after 1st January 1973, complies with the requirements of the British Standard Specification mentioned in the said paragraph 2A and is of a type in respect of which a certificate such as is mentioned in that paragraph has been issued by the Secretary of State, the plate being permanently and legibly marked as mentioned in sub-paragraph (d) of that paragraph,

and, in either such case, the provisions of sub-paragraphs (a) to (c) of the said paragraph 2A shall apply in relation to the mark and to the plate on which it is exhibited as they apply in relation to a registration mark mentioned in that paragraph and to the plate on which that mark is exhibited.

2G. Paragraphs 2D, 2E and 2F shall apply to the registration mark required to be fixed on any of the following vehicles, that is to say, a bicycle, an invalid carriage or a pedestrian controlled vehicle (being, in any such case, a vehicle which is first registered on or after 1st January 1973) but only insofar as relating to the mark required to be fixed on the front of the vehicle, and in their application to such a registration mark for the purposes of this paragraph the provisions of the said paragraphs 2D, 2E and 2F shall have effect accordingly.

2H. Where, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 23, the registration mark required to be fixed on a vehicle is displayed on the back of a trailer attached to that vehicle, the mark may be exhibited on a plate which is constructed of reflex reflecting material, but in any such case the plate shall comply in all respects with such of the provisions of paragraph 2A or, as the case may be, of paragraph 2F as apply in relation to the plate when (in accordance with the provisions in question) it is exhibited on the back of the vehicle to which the trailer is attached.

2I. Nothing in paragraph 2A, 2B, 2F, 2G or 2H shall be taken to authorise any person to apply a specification number as mentioned in any of the first three of those paragraphs in contravention of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968(1).”

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland this 28th day of December 1972.

(L.S.)

E. N. Barry,
Assistant Secretary.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These Regulations make further amendments to the Road Vehicles (Registration and Licensing) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1947. The amendments provide—

- (a) for the particulars to be furnished in respect of certain vehicles exempt from licence duty under section 7(2) and (2A) of the Vehicles (Excise) Act (Northern Ireland) 1972; and
- (b) that the registration mark of certain vehicles first registered on or after 1st January 1973 shall be exhibited on a plate constructed of reflex reflecting material and that the registration mark of certain vehicles first registered before that date may be exhibited on such a plate, and for the requirements applicable with respect to the mark and plate, in particular that the plate shall comply with the appropriate British Standards Specification.