STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1963 No. 1665

ROAD TRAFFIC

The Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness) (Amendment) Regulations 1963

Made - - - -	1*st October* 1963
Laid before Parliament	11*th October* 1963
Coming into Operation	28*th October* 1963

The Minister of Transport, in exercise of his powers under sections 129 and 160 of the Road Traffic Act 1960(a) and of all other powers him enabling in that behalf, and after consultation with representative organisations in accordance with the provisions of section 260(2) of that Act, hereby makes the following Regulations :—

1.—(1) These Regulations shall come into operation on the 28th October 1963 and may be cited as the Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness) (Amendment) Regulations 1963.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(b) shall apply for the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2. The Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness) Regulations 1958(c), as amended by the Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness) (Amendment) Regulations 1959(d), shall be further amended as follows :—

(1) in Regulation 17—

(*a*) in paragraph (1) after the words " in accordance with condition (*b*) " there shall be inserted " or (*bb*) " ;

(*b*) for paragraph (2) of Regulation 17 there shall be substituted the following paragraph :—

" (2) In the case of a single-decked vehicle with a seating capacity for not more than 12 passengers—

(*a*) if the vehicle is registered before the 28th October 1964 no fuel tank shall be placed immediately under any entrance or exit and no filling point for such a tank shall be under or immediately adjacent to any entrance or exit ; and

(*b*) if the vehicle is registered on or after the 28th October 1964 no fuel tank shall be placed immediately under any entrance or exit or within one foot of any entrance or exit and no filling point for such a tank shall be situated at the rear of the vehicle." ;

(2) in Regulation 18—

(*a*) in paragraph (3) for the words " or fuel injection pump " there shall be substituted the words " or, in the case of a fuel injection pump, to the injection nozzles " ;

(*b*) in paragraphs (3) and (4) for the words " a compression ignition engine " in each case where they occur there shall be substituted the words " an engine having a fuel injection system " ;

(a) 8 & 9 Eliz. 2. c. 16. (b) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63. (c) S.I. 1958/473 (1958 II, p. 2014). (d) S.I. 1959/382 (1959 II, p. 2236).

(3) for Regulation 21 there shall be substituted the following Regulations—

" *Artificial Lighting*

21. Every vehicle shall comply with the following conditions :—

(*a*) Adequate artificial lighting shall be provided for the illumination of every deck with a permanent top. At least one lamp shall be provided as near as is practicable to the top of every staircase leading to an upper deck without a permanent top.

(*b*) Adequate artificial lighting shall be provided for any step or platform forming part of any entrance or exit other than an emergency exit :

Provided that this condition shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before the 1st April 1959.

(*c*) The lighting circuits shall be so arranged that an electrical failure of any lighting sub-circuit shall not be capable of extinguishing all the lights on any deck :

Provided that this condition shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before the 28th October 1964.

Electrical Equipment

21A. Every vehicle shall comply with the following conditions :—

(*a*) all electrical apparatus and circuits shall be so constructed and installed as to guard against the risk of electric shock or the outbreak of fire ;

(*b*) in every electrical circuit, other than a high tension ignition circuit, in which the voltage exceeds 50 volts, a manually operated isolating switch shall be connected in each pole of the main circuit and shall be located in a position readily accessible to the driver or conductor :

Provided that this condition shall not apply in the case of a vehicle registered before the 1st April 1959." ;

(4) in Regulation 26—

(*a*) after condition (*b*) of paragraph (1) there shall be inserted the following condition: —

" (*bb*) Where in respect of a single-decked vehicle registered on or after the 28th October 1964 and the lower deck of a double-decked vehicle so registered, the seating capacity, in either case, exceeds 45 passengers, condition (*b*) shall not apply but an additional exit shall be provided which is so placed that the distance between lines drawn at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle and passing through the centres of such an exit and one of the two exits provided in accordance with condition (*a*) at gangway level shall be not less than 15 feet." ;

(*b*) in paragraph (2) at the end of sub-paragraph (ii) there shall be added the following words :—

" except that the provisions of this sub-paragraph shall not apply in the case of such a vehicle registered on or after the 28th October 1964 unless the fuel tank is forward of the rear wheels." ;

(5) in proviso (ii) to Regulation 27(1) after the words " in accordance with condition (*b*) " there shall be inserted " or (*bb*) " ;

(6) in Regulation 30(1)—

(*a*) in sub-paragraph (iv) of condition (*b*) after the words " in accordance with condition (*b*) " there shall be inserted " or (*bb*) " ;

(*b*) in each of the provisos (I) and (II) to condition (*c*) after the words " in accordance with condition (*b*) " there shall be inserted " or (*bb*) " ;

(7) in Regulation 33—

(*a*) at the end of condition (*d*) of paragraph (1) there shall be added the following words " in such a manner as to incommode the driver or cause his view of the road to the front of the vehicle or to the sides thereof to be restricted." ;

(*b*) in paragraph (2) there shall be added after the words " this Regulation shall " the words " in the case of the lower deck of a double-decked vehicle registered on or after the 28th October 1964 extend throughout the gangway and in any other case ".

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Transport the 1st October 1963.

(L.S.)

Ernest Marples,
The Minister of Transport.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

The Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of Fitness) Regulations 1958 prescribe the conditions to be satisfied by a public service vehicle before a certificate of fitness (without the issue of which a vehicle may not be licensed to be used as a public service vehicle) can be obtained.

These Regulations further amend the Regulations of 1958. The principal changes are :—

1. The requirements of Regulation 17 (which relates to fuel tanks, carburettors, etc.) are varied so as to prohibit the fitting of a fuel tank within 1 foot of any entrance or exit on single-decked vehicles with a seating capacity for not more than 12 passengers and first registered on or after the 28th October 1964 and the positioning of a filling point for a fuel tank at the rear of such a vehicle (Reg. 2(1)(*b*)).

2. The requirements of Regulation 18 (which also relates to fuel tanks, carburettors, etc.) are varied so as to permit the type of fuel cut-off device which prevents the fuel being injected into the cylinders of the engine of a vehicle but does not actually cut off the fuel to the injection pump (Reg. 2(2)).

3. New provision is made as regards artificial lighting and electrical equipment on vehicles (Reg. 2(3)).

4. The requirements of Regulation 26 (which relates to number and position of entrances and exits) are altered so as to provide that vehicles carrying more than 45 passengers exclusive of those carried on the upper deck of a double-decked vehicle and first registered on or after the 28th October 1964 must have at least three exits, two of which must be at least 15 feet apart (Reg. 2(4)(*a*)).

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5. Regulation 26 is further altered so as to provide that one means of exit and entrance behind the rear wheels of small public service vehicles first registered on or after the 28th October 1964 will be permitted only if the fuel tank is forward of the rear wheels (Reg. 2(4)(*b*)).

6. The requirements of Regulation 33 (which relates to height of gangways) are altered so as to provide that the present minimum gangway height of 5 feet 10 inches on the lower deck of double-decked vehicles first registered on or after the 28th October 1964 shall now apply throughout the gangway (Reg. 2(7)(*b*)).