

# STATUTORY VEHICLE TESTING

## APPROVAL PROCEDURE FOR TEST EQUIPMENT TO BE USED FOR TESTING VEHICLES CLASSES I to VII and HEAVY GOODS VEHICLES

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### CONTENTS

<b>1. INTRODUCTION</b> .....	2
<b>2. SPECIFICATIONS</b> .....	2
<b>3. APPROVAL PROCEDURE</b> .....	2
3.1. Exhaust Emission Equipment .....	2
3.2. Other Equipment .....	3
3.3. General .....	3
<b>4. APPROVAL REQUIREMENTS</b> .....	3
4.1. Exhaust Emission Equipment .....	3
4.1.1. Exhaust Gas Analyser (EGA).....	3
4.1.2. Diesel Smoke Meter (DSM).....	4
4.2. Other Equipment .....	5
4.3. QUERIES .....	5
<b>Annex A SPECIFICATIONS FOR TEST EQUIPMENT</b> .....	6
<b>Annex B TEST HOUSES FOR APPROVAL OF EMISSION EQUIPMENT</b> .....	7

*Copies of the following forms are attached also:*

Application for Approval of Test Equipment  
(Other than exhaust emission equipment)

Application for Approval of Exhaust Emission Equipment

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Driver & Vehicle Services Agency (DVSA) is responsible for the management of the statutory annual testing of all vehicles in accordance with the Motor Vehicle (Tests) Regulations 1981, as amended, and where applicable, with the Goods Vehicle (Plating and Testing) Regulations 1988, as amended. DVSA has responsibility for controlling the overall standard of the statutory annual test and within that duty; a procedure for the approval of test equipment suitable for statutory MOT testing has been established. This document details the procedure to be followed by manufacturers who wish to gain approval of test equipment intended to be used for statutory MOT testing.

## 2. SPECIFICATIONS

A list of Specifications detailing the precise requirements to be met for each type of test equipment is shown in Annex A. Assessment of the suitability of test equipment for statutory MOT testing shall be based on the latest version of the relevant Specification. It should be noted however that for Wheel Turning Plates, prospective applicants for carrying out MOT Testing will only be *recommended* to select Wheel Turning Plates that meet the Specification; as the equipment does not measure, use of approved Wheel Turning Plates will not be a *mandatory* requirement.

## 3. APPROVAL PROCEDURE

Responsibility for managing the approval procedure for the majority of equipment listed in Annex A, including the issue of Certificates of Acceptance, has been contracted out by DVSA to the Garage Equipment Association (GEA).

The separate Oil Temperature Measurement (OTM) devices used with early designs of diesel smoke meter were originally approved by manufacturers on a self-certification basis. The OTM devices were introduced on 1 September 1995 to meet the new test requirements but also from that date any new design of diesel smoke meter had to have a means of OTM incorporated within the meter thus the need for approval of separate OTM devices will become obsolete. A separate specification is no longer available but if further details are required contact DVSA, Testing Standards Policy and Strategy (see Section 5.1).

Finally, as Wheel Turning Plates do not measure, a self-assessment declaration form is all that is required from the manufacturer to gain approval.

### 3.1. Exhaust Emission Equipment

Because of the special skills and equipment needed, Exhaust Gas Analysers (for petrol engines) and Diesel Smoke Meters (for diesel engines) are tested by third party organisations and the cost of the work shall be arranged and paid direct by the applicant. Please contact the GEA for information on acceptable test houses.

When a new design of exhaust emission equipment has completed the specified acceptance tests, a report certifying the result will be issued by the test house. When a successful test report and the other relevant items listed in Section 4.1 below have been received by GEA, a Certificate of Acceptance will be issued and arrangements made to add the make and model number of the new equipment to the list of approved equipment. It should be noted that Diesel Smoke Meters require two reports, one for the correlation of smoke measurement with the standard and one for environmental acceptance.

### **3.2. Other Equipment**

Assessment tests can be carried out at any suitable premises nominated by the applicant. Alternatively, small free-standing equipment can be delivered to the GEA or other nominated address. Equipment shall be installed at the expense of the applicant and any alterations to the equipment or manuals required to achieve compliance with the relevant Specification shall also be at the applicant's expense. Any alterations necessary must be completed and approval in writing by the GEA must be received before the equipment can be used for MOT Testing.

When a piece of equipment has met all requirements of the relevant Specification and approval has been granted, the GEA will issue a Certificate of Acceptance and ensure that the make and model number of the equipment is added to the list of approved equipment issued.

The GEA will provide a table of fees for approval of different types of equipment at different locations.

### **3.3. General**

If, as an alternative or addition to the original manufacturer's marking, the basic equipment may be marked with a name or model number specified by a supplier or agent, full details of any variations from the original manufacturer's specification, if any, shall be supplied to the GEA (as applicable), at the time of application for approval. The information will be assessed and the applicant will be advised whether a separate application for approval will need to be made for the additional type. If there are no variations other than cosmetic, approval may be granted under more than one make and/or model number.

In the future, if any change is made to the company name or model number stated in the original approval application, the GEA (as applicable) should be informed together with details of any manufacturing changes. If there are no differences to the manufacturing specification, the revised name may be added to the list of approved equipment.

A declaration that current production conforms or will conform to the specification submitted for approval.

*Note: Once approval has been granted a declaration of conformity shall be required on an annual basis.*

## **4. APPROVAL REQUIREMENTS**

*Note: All written documentation shall be submitted in English*

### **4.1. Exhaust Emission Equipment**

The items listed in the relevant section below shall be supplied to GEA with each application for approval.

#### **4.1.1. Exhaust Gas Analyser (EGA)**

- a. A copy of the test reports (via relevant test house).
- b. A copy of the Measurement Instruments Directive (MID) certificate
- c. A copy of the User Manual.
- d. Photographs of the EGA.

- e. Any declaration made under paragraph 6.5 of the Specification VPB/07/24/20.
- f. A declaration that any changes required to obtain approval, as listed in the pattern approval report, shall be made to all production models.
- g. A declaration that no changes have been or will be made to the EGA software which will affect any part of the measurement procedure for the purposes of MOT testing.
- h. A declaration that any proposed future design modifications will be notified to GEA and the original test house prior to introduction.
- I. A declaration of which calibration interval will be applicable under Appendix 7A of the Specification VPB/07/24/20.
- j. A note defining the EAL test house or ISO accreditation body which has been nominated to carry out conformity of production checking.
- k. If applicable, a copy of the OMIL report.
- l. If applicable, a declaration from the original certification holder to advise that the EGA has been released to be sold in an alternative trim format.
- m. If re-badging is required, a request for the issue of alternative certification giving details of the original certification and the new identifying information.

**4.1.2. Diesel Smoke Meter (DSM)**

- a. A copy of the test reports (via the relevant test house).
- b. A copy of the User Manual to meet the requirements specified under paragraph 5.8 of the Specification MOT/05/01/01/SMOKE.
- c. Photographs of the DSM.
- d. Any declaration made under paragraph 5.10 of the Specification MOT/05/01/01/SMOKE.
- e. A declaration of the categories of vehicle to be tested.
- f. A declaration that any changes required to obtain approval, as listed in the pattern approval report, will be made to all production models.
- g. A declaration that no changes have been or will be made to the DSM software which will affect any part of the measurement procedure for the purposes of MOT testing.
- h. A declaration that any proposed future design modifications will be notified to GEA and the original test house prior to introduction.
- i. If applicable, a declaration from the original certification holder to advise that the DSM has been released to be sold in an alternative trim format.

- j. If re-badging is required, a request for the issue of alternative certification giving details of the original certification and the new identifying information.

#### 4.2. Other Equipment

The following items shall be supplied to the GEA with each application for approval:

- a. A completed application form.

*Note: A separate form should be used for each item of equipment.  
Photocopies of the application forms are acceptable.*

- b. For the Test equipment: a detailed specification  
colour photograph(s) or brochure  
dimensioned assembly drawings  
two copies of the User Manual
- c. For the Calibration equipment: a detailed specification  
*(if applicable)* colour photograph(s)  
dimensioned assembly drawings  
two copies of the User Manual
- d. Certification of the traceability of the Calibration equipment and any other part of the test equipment defined in the relevant Specification.
- e. The relevant fee based on the current GEA scale of charges.

#### 4.3. QUERIES

Queries regarding the Specifications, approval procedure and all applications for approval of test equipment for MOT Testing, should be addressed to:

The Chief Executive  
Garage Equipment Association  
2/3 Church Walk  
Daventry  
NORTHANTS NN11 4BL

Tel. 01327 312616

Fax. 01327 312606

## Annex A

## SPECIFICATIONS FOR TEST EQUIPMENT

The following Specifications are available:

Aiming Screens	for testing Class I & II Vehicles
Decelerometers	for testing all Classes of Vehicle <i>(not recommended for use with Class I &amp; II vehicles)</i>
Diesel Smoke Meters	<i>(for diesel engined vehicles)</i>
Exhaust Gas Analysers	<i>(for petrol engined vehicles)</i>
Headlamp Beam Testers	for testing all Classes of Vehicle (Including ATL use)
Plate Brake Testers	for testing Class I & II Vehicles
Plate Brake Testers	for testing Class III & IV Vehicles
Plate Brake Testers	for testing Class VII Vehicles
Roller Brake Testers	for testing Class I & II Vehicles
Roller Brake Testers	for testing Class III & IV Vehicles
Roller Brake Testers	for testing Class VII Vehicles
Roller Brake Testers	for testing Class V Vehicles <i>(Suitable also for Class VI vehicles &amp; HGVs used in an ATF))</i>
Tyre Tread Depth Gauges	for testing all Classes of Vehicle
Wheel Turning Plates	for testing Class III, IV & VII Vehicles *
Speed Limiter Testing Devices	for testing Class VI and Heavy Goods Vehicles
Steering and Suspension Play Detectors (ATL)	
Roller Brake Testers	for testing Class III & IV Vehicles (with ATL annex)
Roller Brake Testers	for testing Class VII Vehicles (with ATL annex)
Brake Pedal Application Device (ATL)	
Guidelines for connecting to the DVSA's MOT Testing Software (MTS)	

\* *Recommended only (see paragraph 2 of the Approval Procedure notes)*

## **Annex B TEST HOUSES FOR APPROVAL OF EMISSION EQUIPMENT**

### Exhaust Gas Analysers (EGA)

A full copy of the OIML report and the MID Certificate must be submitted.

There are additional items not covered by the OIML report but are required for approval. These can be tested by various Test Houses and Laboratories. Please contact the GEA for the latest information.

### Diesel Smoke Meters (DSM)

Please contact the GEA for information on test houses who are acceptable to perform environmental testing on DSMs

#### b) Smoke Correlation Testing

The Garage Equipment Association (GEA)  
2 to 3 Church Walk  
Daventry  
NORTHANTS NN11

Tel. 01327 312616  
Fax. 01327 312606