1971. No. 71 **[C]**

MOTOR VEHICLES: REAR MARKINGS

REGULATIONS, DATED 10TH MARCH 1971, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTION 26 OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1970.

The Ministry of Home Affairs, in exercise of the powers vested in it by Section 26 of the Road Traffic Act (Northern Ireland) 1970(a) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Motor Vehicles (Rear Markings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1971 and shall come into operation on 1st April 1971.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these Regulations the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them:—

"excepted vehicle" means—

(*a*) a passenger vehicle;

(*b*) a trailer, being a living van the unladen weight of which does not exceed 2 tons;

(*c*) a land tractor, land locomotive, land implement, land implement conveyor, an agricultural trailer or an industrial tractor;

(*d*) a works truck or works trailer;

(*e*) a vehicle in an unfinished condition proceeding to a works for completion or to a place where it is to be stored or displayed for sale;

(*f*) a motor vehicle constructed or adapted for the purpose of forming part of an articulated vehicle;

(*g*) a broken down vehicle while being drawn in consequence of the breakdown;

(*h*) engineering plant;

(*i*) a trailer drawn by a public service vehicle;

(*j*) a vehicle designed for fire fighting or fire salvage purposes;

(*k*) a vehicle designed and used for the purpose of servicing or controlling aircraft;

(*l*) a vehicle designed and used for the transportation of two or more wheeled motor vehicles carried thereon;

(*m*) a vehicle proceeding to a place for export;

(*n*) a vehicle brought temporarily into Northern Ireland by a person resident abroad;

(*o*) a vehicle in the service of a visiting force or of a headquarters;

(*p*) a motor vehicle first used before 1st January 1940;

"the Construction and Use Regulations" means the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1967(**b**).

(a) 1970. c. 2 (N.I.). (b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967, No. 75.

(2) In these Regulations, any expression defined in Regulation 3(1) of the Construction and Use Regulations for the purposes of those Regulations shall have the same meaning as in that Regulation, and any determination as to when a motor vehicle is first used shall be made as provided in Regulation 3(1A) of those Regulations.

(3) For the purposes of these Regulations—

(*a*) the expression "rear marking" means, except where the context otherwise requires, a rear marking of the type shown in any of the diagrams numbered 1 to 5 set out in Part I of the Schedule;

(*b*) any reference to a rear marking by a number means a reference to the rear marking shown in the diagram in Part I of the said Schedule bearing that number;

(*c*) any reference to a combination of vehicles is a reference to a motor vehicle and any trailer or trailers drawn thereby.

Application

3. These Regulations apply to—

(*a*) every motor vehicle the unladen weight of which exceeds 3 tons; and

(*b*) every trailer the unladen weight of which exceeds 1 ton.

Fitting of rear markings

4.—(1) On and after 1st November 1971—

(*a*) every motor vehicle to which these Regulations apply, being a motor vehicle the overall length of which does not exceed 13 metres and not being an excepted vehicle; and

(*b*) every trailer to which these Regulations apply, if it forms part of a combination of vehicles the overall length of which does not exceed 11 metres and it is not an excepted vehicle,

shall be fitted with a rear marking numbered 1 or 2, except that where any such motor vehicle or trailer is so constructed at the rear that it is impracticable without undue expense or risk of damage to such a rear marking for that marking to be fitted in accordance with the provisions of Part III of the Schedule, a rear marking numbered 3 may instead be fitted.

(2) On and after 1st November 1971, every trailer to which these Regulations apply, not being an excepted vehicle, and forming part of a combination of vehicles having an overall length of more than 11 metres and not more than 13 metres, shall be fitted with a rear marking numbered 1, 2, 4 or 5, except that where any such trailer is so constructed at the rear that it is impracticable without undue expense or risk of damage to a rear marking numbered 1 or 2 for such a marking to be fitted in accordance with the provisions of the said Part III, a rear marking numbered 3 may instead be fitted.

(3) On and after 1st November 1971—

(*a*) every motor vehicle to which these Regulations apply, being a motor vehicle the overall length of which exceeds 13 metres and not being an excepted vehicle; and

(*b*) every trailer to which these Regulations apply, if it forms part of a combination of vehicles the overall length of which exceeds 13 metres and it is not an excepted vehicle,

shall be fitted with a rear marking numbered 4 or 5.

(4) Until 1st November 1971—

(*a*) a vehicle mentioned in paragraph (1), and either before or on or after that date a vehicle to which these Regulations apply and which would fall within that paragraph but for it being an excepted vehicle, may be fitted with a rear marking in accordance with the provisions of that paragraph;

(*b*) a trailer mentioned in paragraph (2), and either before or on or after that date a trailer to which these Regulations apply and which would fall within that paragraph but for it being an excepted vehicle, may be fitted with a rear marking in accordance with the provisions of that paragraph;

(*c*) a vehicle mentioned in paragraph (3), and either before or on or after that date a vehicle to which these Regulations apply and which would fall within that paragraph but for it being an excepted vehicle, may be fitted with a rear marking in accordance with the provisions of that paragraph.

(5) A rear marking fitted to a vehicle in pursuance of this Regulation shall—

(*a*) be of the size and colour shown in the diagram relating to the marking set out in Part I of the Schedule subject, however, to the provisions of Part II of that Schedule; and

(*b*) be so fitted as to comply with such of the provisions set out in Part III of that Schedule as relate thereto.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for Northern Ireland this 10th day of March 1971.

(L.S.)

W. G. Robinson,
Assistant Secretary.