

CIRCULAR NO 0-7-2

DEFINITION OF MULTIPURPOSE PASSENGER CAR

1. This Circular supercedes Circular 0-7-2 Definition of Multipurpose Passenger Car Issue 1, December 1977.
2. Manufacturers holding a current compliance plate approval (CPA) in the category of multipurpose passenger car for a vehicle which does not meet the requirements of this Circular are advised that such CPA will be withdrawn on 30 June 1987. Manufacturers intending to apply for a CPA in the category of multipurpose passenger car for a 4-wheel drive vehicle which meets the requirements of para 4 (ie. superceded Circular 0-7-2, Issue 1, December 1977) but does not meet the requirements of para 5(b) will be accepted by the Board but the resulting CPA will expire on 30 June 1987.
3. The purpose of this Circular is to further clarify the definition of Multipurpose Passenger Car contained in the Australian Design Rules for Motor Vehicle Safety as definition No 12.
4. A vehicle will be classified as a Multipurpose Passenger Car if it fulfills the following criteria:
  - (a) It has a Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM) of less than 4.5 tonne
  - (b) It has more than one row of seats
  - (c) Its maximum number of seating positions (including the driver) is not more than eight
  - (d) The maximum number of seating positions multiplied by 68kg is not less than 50% of the difference between GVM and unladen mass
  - (e) It is constructed on a truck chassis or has special features for off-road operation.

5. A vehicle with special features for off-road operation is a vehicle

(a) that has 4 - wheel drive

AND

(b) that has at least four of the following characteristics calculated when the vehicle is at its unladen mass on a level surface, with the front wheels parallel to the vehicle's longitudinal centerline, and the tyres inflated to the manufacturer's recommended pressure -

(i) Approach angle of not less than 28 degrees

(ii) Breakover angle of not less than 14 degrees

(iii) Departure angle of not less than 20 degrees

(iv) Running clearance of not less than 200mm

(v) Front and rear axle or suspension clearances of not less than 175mm each.

6. Notwithstanding 5(a) above the Board will consider classifying vehicles which do not have 4 - wheel drive as multipurpose passenger cars provided they meet all other requirements of this Circular and the manufacturer can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Board that the vehicle is designed for off-road operation.

DEFINITIONS

Unladen mass - as defined in ADR definition 20.

Ground clearance dimensions specified in para 5(b) are as defined in SAE J1100.