



# CIRCULAR 0 – 4 – 12

---

## CERTIFICATION OF CAMPERVANS AND MOTORHOMES

### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Circular sets requirements for a *new vehicle* Campervan or Motorhome manufactured as a completed vehicle, as well as a Campervan or Motorhome manufactured by adding to, or modifying, a completed *new vehicle* undergoing Second-Stage-of-Manufacture (SSM), as per Circular 0-4-6.
- 1.2 This Circular also sets requirements for a *used imported vehicle* Campervan or Motorhome or a *used imported vehicle* to be modified to become a Campervan or Motorhome, subject to the Motor Vehicle Standards (Approval to Place Used Import Plates) Determination 2002.

### 2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 Terms shown in *italics* are defined within the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989*, the Australian Design Rules for Motor Vehicles and Trailers – Third Edition, or this Circular.
- 2.2 The term *motorhome* applies equally to both a Campervan and Motorhome.
- 2.3 A *motorhome* is a special purpose *motor vehicle manufactured* to include accommodation space which contains at least the following equipment:-
  - seats, and table;
  - sleeping accommodation, which may be by converting seats;
  - cooking facilities; and
  - storage facilities.

This equipment shall be rigidly fixed; however, the table may be designed to be easily removable.

- 2.4 A *designated seating position* is a *seating position* as designated by the *manufacturer*, intended to be occupied when the vehicle is being *used in transport*. A *motorhome* may have additional seats provided for purposes other than to be *used in transport*.

### 3. MOTORHOME VEHICLE CATEGORY

- 3.1 The *motorhome* Vehicle Category of a completed *motorhome* is to be determined as per the ADR Vehicle Categories, but using “*designated seating positions*” in lieu of “*seating positions*”.
- 4.1 The “MAKE-Model” designation shall be unique from all other Identification Plate Approvals (IPA), and the “MAKE” name used should not be likely to be confused with other vehicle manufacturers or include vehicle type terminology, such as RV, 4WD and similar.
  - 4.1.1 For a *new vehicle motorhome*, make and model designation shall be in accordance with Circular 0-3-3 “Motor Vehicle Make and Model Designation”.
  - 4.1.2 The “MAKE-Model” designation of a SSM *motorhome* shall be as set out in Circular 0-4-6 clause 3.2.

## CIRCULAR 0 – 4 - 12

4.1.3 The “Model” designation of all *motorhome* IPAs shall include qualification as a **Motorhome** or as a **Campervan**, for example:-

- a *motorhome* SSM modified “ALPHA Beta” might be designated “ABC ALPHA Beta **Motorhome**” as appropriate, or
- a completed vehicle *motorhome* might be designated “ALPHA Beta **Motorhome**”.

4.2 For a *used imported vehicle*, make and model designation shall be as specified under the relevant Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicle Scheme (SEVS) ruling. Refer to Circular 0-2-12.

### 5. AUSTRALIAN DESIGN RULE EVIDENCE

5.1 As a consequence of the determined *motorhome* Vehicle Category as per clause 3.1, those ADRs are applicable as determined in accordance with clauses 5.2 and 5.3 below.

5.2 Australian Design Rule applicability is as follows:-

5.2.1 For a completed *new vehicle motorhome* the applicability date of ADRs is the *date of manufacture*. In the case of a locally built vehicle this is usually the date the Identification Plate is affixed.

5.2.2 For an SSM *motorhome* the applicability date is the date that the SSM Identification Plate is affixed however, reference should be made to Circular 0-4-6 clause 4 for additional arrangements that apply to Second-Stage-of-Manufacture IPA.

5.2.3 For a *motorhome manufactured from a used imported vehicle*, the applicability date of ADRs is :-

- if either the *used imported vehicle* or the subsequent *motorhome* has greater than twelve *designated seating positions* or has a GVM greater than 12.0 tonne, the date the *used import plate* is affixed; or
- if both the *used imported vehicle* and the subsequent *motorhome* have twelve *designated seating positions* or less, and have a GVM of 12.0 tonne or less; the date on which the *imported vehicle* was originally built.

Note: The start date of the SEVS eligibility period (refer Circular 0-2-12) for the *used imported vehicle* make-model is deemed to be the *date of manufacture* of the vehicle model for the purposes of establishing ADR applicability where that applicability depends on when the model was first produced.

5.3 Where an SSM IPA *motorhome* application changes the ADR *motorhome* Vehicle Category from the original completed first-stage vehicle, then the SSM IPA shall comply with all the ADRs applicable to the completed SSM *motorhome* Vehicle Category, as at the date of the issue of the SSM IPA, subject to 5.2.2 above.

### 6. MOTORHOME GROSS VEHICLE MASS

6.1 The *motorhome* shall have a *Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM)* appropriate for its purpose, and shall include the following allowances within its *laden mass*, regardless of the determined Vehicle Category:-

- a *Maximum Loaded Vehicle Mass (of a passenger vehicle)* as per the Australian Design Rule definitions, where reference to a “*seating position*” means a “*designated seating position*.”
- all supplied equipment such as toilet, refrigerator, shower, gas-bottle etc. including the mass of full fluids/gas. Where waste (grey and black) water tank(s) are provided, their mass may be reduced by the mass of the water stored in any fresh water tank(s).

## CIRCULAR 0 – 4 - 12

- a Personal Effects Allowance, to cover cooking utensils, bedding, luggage and other such items, of 60kg for each of the first two sleeping berths, and 20kg for each sleeping berth more than two. This shall be in addition to that included within the *Maximum Loaded Vehicle Mass (of a passenger vehicle)* above.

Note: This *laden mass* allowance should be distributed as appropriate to the build of the *motorhome* as determined by the *motorhome manufacturer*, but with the Personal Effects Allowance distributed 50/50 per *axle group* for the purpose of determining certified *Gross Axle Load Rating (GALR)*.

### 7. DESIGNATED SEATING POSITIONS

7.1 The number of *designated seating positions* shall be equal to, or greater than the number of sleeping-berths provided within the *motorhome*.

7.2 It is preferable that all *designated seating positions* are forward or rear facing.

### 8. SEATS, SEATBELTS and SEATBELT ANCHORAGES

8.1 Generally, *motorhomes* will be configured to provide a number of *designated seating positions* in addition to the driver's and front passenger seats. These seats may double in use as seats for dining or recreation and in some cases convert to sleeping-berths. They may also be capable of swivelling to better suit their intended multiple use function.

- It will be a condition of all *motorhome* IPAs for a durable and permanent label or plaque to be affixed to the *motorhome* in a readily visible location with the following information in 6mm high lettering:-

THIS MOTORHOME IS DESIGNED FOR THE CARRIAGE OF ( \* ) PERSONS

{ A seating plan showing all provided seats, with an " X " shown

on all seating positions that are NOT designated seating positions }

WARNING : THE SEATING POSITION(S) SHOWN BY " X " ON THIS LABEL

MUST NOT BE OCCUPIED WHILE THE VEHICLE IS IN MOTION

- A copy of this label/ plaque shall be included within the supplied Owner's Manual.

8.1.1 If multiple seating layout variations are to be included within an IPA, then as appropriate, multiple labels/ plaques shall be provided.

8.2 All *designated seating positions* shall fully comply with the requirements of ADR 3/xx, ADR 4/xx and ADR 5/xx or the Motor Vehicle Standards (Approval to Place Used Import Plates) Determination as applicable.

8.2.1 If a swivelling-seat is used in a *designated seating position*, it shall be easily lockable without the use of tools in position(s) as intended for *use in transport* and ADR compliance must be appropriate to that locked position(s).

- It will be a condition of all *motorhome* IPAs that if a swivelling seat is able to be locked in a position other than as certified as a *designated seating position*, then a durable and permanent label is to be provided in a visible position adjacent to the seat, in 6mm high lettering as follows:-

WARNING : THIS SEAT IS ONLY TO BE USED IN THE ( FORWARD/ REARWARD/ etc \* - as appropriate)

FACING POSITION WHILE THE VEHICLE IS IN MOTION

- A copy of this label shall also be included within the supplied Owner's Manual.

## CIRCULAR 0 – 4 - 12

- 8.3 Seats provided, in addition to those *designated seating positions*, are not required to be ADR compliant, and shall not be provided with seatbelts, child-restraint anchorages or any other equipment that may imply they are for *use in transport*.
- 8.4 Child Restraint Anchorages (CRAs) shall be provided and certified as required for the *motorhome* vehicle category as per 3.1 above, and if additional CRAs are provided they must also be included within the *motorhome* certification.

### 9. GLAZING MATERIAL

- 9.1 ADR 8/xx specifies certification requirements for all glazing material used in the external and internal construction of a motor vehicle. Other than for all vehicle windows, ADR 8/xx shall only apply to glazing material that is within the *head impact area* (disregarding the reference to 'non-glazed surfaces').

Note: Non complying glazing which is outside the *head impact area* must be restricted to glazing which is essential to the use of the vehicle, except where separated from all designated seating positions by room or cupboard doors, and must be identified as such within the ADR 8/xx submission.

### 10. LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS (LPG)

- 10.1 ADR 44/xx specifies certification requirements for LPG used both as a fuel for motor vehicles and also for installed equipment, such as stoves and refrigerators.
- 10.2 *Motorhome* manufacturers should also establish any additional requirements regarding LPG installations with the relevant State and Territory registration authorities.

### 11. GENERAL SAFETY

- 11.1 ADR 42/xx covers various general safety requirements relevant to *motorhomes*, with certification requirements determined by vehicle category as per clause 3.1 above. Doors as in clause 44.8.1, may make reference to ADR 58/00 clauses 58.5.3 and 58.5.4, and for access steps clauses 58.7.2.3, 58.7.2.4, 58.7.3 and 58.7.4, for guidance.
- 11.2 *Motorhome* manufacturers should also establish any additional requirements with the relevant State and Territory registration authorities, in particular with respect to electrical power systems and remote connections, smoke detectors, fire blankets and similar types of equipment.
- 11.3 In addition to the tyre placard requirements of ADR 42/xx the tyre placard (or an additional supplementary placard) shall display the *Gross Axle Load Rating (GALR)* of each Axle or Axle Group.

### 12. CERTIFICATION EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

- 12.1 Applications for *motorhome* IPA or Used Imported Plate Approval shall provide the following evidence in addition to the normally required SE, SF, Road Vehicle Descriptor (RVD) and Vehicle Inspection Certificate (VIC) submissions, as appropriate.
- 12.1.1 Applications shall have attached to referenced ADR 44/xx evidence, or for *new vehicles* include within an SE44/xx blank form:-
- a *motorhome* floor/ seating plan, including drawings or sketches supported by photographs, showing all seating positions and provided seats, identifying type/ purpose of seat, whether being a *designated seating position* or not, and if so, type of seatbelt assembly provided. This plan drawing should also show fitment position of label(s) below.
  - a facsimile of the label(s) identifying seating capacity and positions of all *designated seating positions*, as per clause 8.1 above
  - a facsimile of label(s) regarding swivelling seats as per clause 8.2.1 above, if fitted.

## CIRCULAR 0 – 4 - 12

- a facsimile of the owner's manual section showing the label(s) as per clause 8.1 and clause 8.2.1 above.

12.1.2 Applications shall include the following mass and load details attached to the ADR 31/xx or ADR 35/xx evidence (as applicable to *motorhome* Vehicle Category clause 3.1 above):-

- details of the declared *GVM*, as per clause 6, for each RVD variant or VIC, as applicable.
- calculations of the individual *axle group loads* and the corresponding *GALR* and *GVM* for each variant.
- evidence showing that all tyre ratings and *manufacturer's* axle ratings are suitable for the *GALR* and *GVM* for each variant.
- the *motorhome unladen mass*.
- a copy of a weigh-bridge certificate showing *axle loads* of each *motorhome* variant at its *unladen mass*.

12.1.3 The RVD or VIC shall have included in the space provided for "Remarks", a description of the *motorhome*, or for a *SSM Motorhome* a description of the SSM modifications.

- advice shall also be provided for each variant, of the individual *axle group loads*, as per 12.1.2 above.

12.1.4 Calculations to determine Vehicle Category declared within the CA form or VIC are to be provided attached to the RVD or within the VIC in the space provided for "Remarks". Calculations shall cover each variant, as per clause 3.1, clause 6.1 and the number of *designated seating positions*.

\*\*\*\*\*