

---

# VIRM: Entry certification amendment 1 March and 11 March 2016

11 March 2016

## ***List of changes and preview pages***

In this amendment:

- Definitions added
- Clarifications to seatbelt requirements in motorhomes
- The second phase of changes related to electronic stability control (ESC) – used class MC vehicles inspected at the border from 1 March 2016 must have ESC fitted.

This document has preview screenshots of the unchanged 1 March amendments and the 11 March corrections – the 11 March corrections are underlined in red. The live website versions are highlighted in yellow as per the usual amendment process.

---

## **IMPORTANT**

Please be advised that the NZ Transport Agency has withdrawn and modified amendments made to these VIRMs:

- **In-service certification**
  - General vehicles: Vehicle interior: 7-5 Seatbelts and seatbelt anchorages
  - Light PSVs: Vehicle interior: 7-5 Seatbelts and seatbelt anchorages
  - Heavy vehicles: Vehicle interior: 7-5 Seatbelts and seatbelt anchorages.
- **Entry certification**
  - Technical bulletin 24: Recording the number of seats for self-propelled motorhomes.

The 1 March 2016 VIRM amendments were issued to correct a discrepancy between *VIRM: In-service certification* and *VIRM: Entry certification* with the [Land Transport Rule: Seatbelts and Seatbelt Anchorages 2002](#). However, a result of the amendment is that it immediately invalidated certain existing motorhome seatbelts, which was not the intent of the amendment.

As a result of the repercussions, the Transport Agency is working to effect a Rule change that will clarify the intent of the Rule and not disadvantage owners of existing motorhomes. In the meantime, please refer to the modified VIRM amendments, which will be retroactively effective 1 March 2016.

## Future ESC changes

The [Land Transport Rule: Light-vehicle brakes Amendment 2014](#) sets out the following dates from which used vehicles coming into New Zealand are required to have ESC:

- used class MA vehicles (passenger cars) with engine capacity greater than 2 litres inspected at the border from **1 March 2018**
- all other used class MA, MB and NA light passenger and goods vehicles inspected at the border from **1 March 2020**.

Similar to frontal impact and emissions requirements, when fully phased in, this provision will not apply to:

- an immigrant's vehicle, or
- a special interest vehicle, or
- a motorsport vehicle that is operated in accordance with the conditions of a valid low volume vehicle authority card issued for the vehicle in accordance with the Low Volume Vehicle Code, or
- a vehicle specified in paragraph (a)\* of the definition of 'low volume vehicle' that was not originally fitted with an electronic stability control system and is certified in accordance with the Low Volume Vehicle Code, or
- a motor vehicle manufactured, or first registered outside of New Zealand, twenty years or more before the date of its first certification for entry into service in New Zealand.

**As the changes come into force, VIRMs will be updated with the new requirements.**

*\*A make and model of a vehicle of a class other than MD3, MD4, ME, NB, NC, TC and TD, that is:*

*(a) manufactured, assembled, or scratch-built in quantities of 500 or less in any one year, and where the construction of the vehicle may directly or indirectly affect compliance of the vehicle with any of the vehicle standards prescribed by New Zealand law.*

# CONTENTS

<b>List of changes .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Preview pages .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>5</b>
9 Definitions and abbreviations.....	5
<b>Inspection and certification .....</b>	<b>5</b>
8-1 Service brake and park brake .....	5
<b>Technical bulletins .....</b>	<b>6</b>
24 Recording the number of seats for self-propelled motorhomes.....	6
37 Electronic stability control identification .....	7

# LIST OF CHANGES

Click on the link in the 'Section' column to view the page on the Vehicle inspection portal.

SECTION	CHANGE DESCRIPTION
<b>Introduction</b>	
9 Definitions and abbreviations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KSDP definition added</li> <li>Motorhome definition added.</li> </ul>
<b>Inspection and certification</b>	
8-1 Service brake and park brake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Rfr 3: <b>used</b> class MC vehicles inspected at the border from <b>1 March 2016</b> must have ESC fitted. Note that from 1 July 2015 new class MC (and MA, MB, NA) that are first certified for entry into service in New Zealand must have electronic stability control fitted (introduced in 1 July 2015 amendment).</li> </ul>
<b>Technical bulletins</b>	
24 Recording the number of seats for self-propelled motorhomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clarifications to seatbelt requirements in motorhomes with examples also included. <b>Includes corrected content.</b></li> </ul>
37 Electronic stability control identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electronic stability control dashboard acronyms added.</li> </ul>

# PREVIEW PAGES

## Introduction

### 9 Definitions and abbreviations

<b>KSDP</b>	means key service delivery partner. They are defined as organisations that are contracted or appointed by the Transport Agency to delivery regulatory products or services and who have sufficient market share and/or are of sufficient size and standing within an industry segment to be able to represent and influence the customer expectation of that industry segment.
<b>Motorhome</b>	means a motor vehicle, other than a trailer, that is permanently equipped with features intended to make the vehicle suitable as a dwelling place, and must include at least one sleeping berth and one table, both of which may be of a design that allows them to be retracted or folded away.

## Inspection and certification

### 8-1 Service brake and park brake

Reasons for rejection	Tables and images	Summary of legislation
<p>3. A <b>used</b> motor vehicle of class MC that is inspected at the border for entry into service in New Zealand on or after 1 March 2016 does not have electronic stability control fitted (<b>Note 1</b>).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For evidence of acceptable proof that the vehicle is fitted with an ESC system see <b>Technical bulletin 37</b>.</li> </ul>		

Reasons for rejection	Tables and images	Summary of legislation
<p>3. A <b>used</b> motor vehicle of class MC that is inspected at the border for entry into service in New Zealand on or after 1 March 2016 does not have electronic stability control fitted (<b>Note 1</b>).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For evidence of acceptable proof that the vehicle is fitted with an ESC system see <b>Technical bulletin 37</b>.</li> </ul>		

## Technical bulletins

### 24 Recording the number of seats for self-propelled motorhomes

#### Technical information

#### Vehicles manufactured or converted to a motorhome after 1 October 2003

The number of seating positions recorded in LANDATA should match the number of sleeping berths.

The vehicle must be fitted with:

- a) seatbelts in front seating positions as specified for class MB vehicles in the **VIRM: In-service certification Table 7-5-3** (column three).
- b) seatbelts in rear seating positions as specified for class MB vehicles in the **VIRM: In-service certification Table 7-5-3** (column three) for at least as many rear seating positions as the number of sleeping berths minus the number of front seating positions.
- c) a notice displayed in a prominent location, which recommends on safety grounds that passengers use the seats that are fitted with seatbelts when the vehicle is travelling, and stating that it is compulsory to wear fitted seatbelts.

#### Example

1. A motorhome manufactured in 2004 is imported. The vehicle has five sleeping berths. There are two front seating positions. There must be at least three rear seating positions fitted with lap or lap-and-diagonal seatbelts. The vehicle should be recorded in LANDATA as a five-seater.

2. A motorhome manufactured in 2004 is imported. The vehicle has two sleeping berths. There are two front seating positions and there is a two-seat sofa in the rear. There is no requirement to have any of the rear seating positions fitted with belts. The vehicle should be recorded in LANDATA as a two-seater.

### 37 Electronic stability control identification

- A tell-tale indicator on the vehicle's dashboard comprising one of the following acronyms:

Acronym	Meaning
<b>ASC</b>	Active stability control
<b>DSC</b>	Dynamic stability control
<b>DSTC</b>	Dynamic stability and traction control
<b>ESC</b>	Electronic stability control
<b>ESP</b>	Electronic stability program
<b>MSP</b>	Maserati stability program
<b>PSM</b>	Porsche stability management
<b>VDC</b>	Vehicle dynamic control
<b>VDCS</b>	Vehicle dynamics control systems
<b>VSA</b>	Vehicle stability assist
<b>VSC</b>	Vehicle stability control