

# VIRM: In-service certification (WoF only) amendment

1 April 2024 amendment preview

March 2024

## Contents

- General amendments..... 2
- General vehicles ..... 2**
  - 3-1 Structure (incl. frontal impact) ..... 2
  - 4-2 Front and rear fog lamps ..... 3
  - 10-2 Hubs and axles..... 3
  - 13-1 Engine and transmission ..... 4
- Motorcycles..... 4**
  - 10-2 Hubs and axles..... 4
  - 13-1 Engine and transmission ..... 4
- General trailers ..... 4**
  - 10-2 Hubs and axles..... 4
- Forklifts, Unclassified vehicles..... 4**
  - 10-2 Hubs and axles..... 4
  - 13-1 Engine and drive train..... 4
- Tractors ..... 4**
  - 10-2 Hubs and axles..... 4
- Technical bulletins ..... 5**
  - 16 Seatbelt repair and re-webbing ..... 5

# General amendments

## General vehicles

### 3-1 Structure (incl. frontal impact)

Some vehicle inspectors are not sure if the requirements for cargo hoists listed in Table 3-1-1 (Modifications that do not require LVV certification) include wheelchair stowing devices.

We're adding a new row to the table to clarify when these devices don't require LVV certification.

Ute trays	For vehicles registered in New Zealand <b>on or after 1 January 2021</b> :  The fitting has not weakened the vehicle structure ( <a href="#">Note 10</a> ⓘ); and the tray has no sharp edges and radiuses of not less than 3mm on every external edge.  See also <a href="#">Table 2-1-1</a>
Wheelchair stowing devices	The device: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• is for stowing and/or deploying an unoccupied non-powered wheelchair, and</li><li>• is securely attached to the vehicle, and</li><li>• folds and locks in a position outside of the vehicle's passenger compartments, and</li><li>• has no sharp protrusions (edges have a radius of at least 3mm), and</li><li>• doesn't compromise the safe performance of the vehicle.</li></ul>


These requirements were communicated via letter in December 2023 as well, to provide guidance until we could make this amendment.

[Wheelchair stowing device letter to IOs – 19 December 2023](#)

## 4-2 Front and rear fog lamps

We're amending Reason for rejection 10g) in this section to align with our requirements for headlamps, and correcting Note 6 to refer to fog lamps.

10. When switched on, a front fog lamp emits light that:

- a) is not projected to the front, or
- b) produces an incorrect beam pattern (Figure 4-2-1), or
- c) is not substantially white or amber to the front, or
- d) is not approximately equal in colour or intensity from the other lamp in the pair, or
- e) is not steady, or
- f) is not bright enough to illuminate the road ahead in conditions of severely reduced visibility, eg due to modification, deterioration, dirt or an incorrect light source, or
- g) is too bright, and could dazzle other road users, eg due to the fitment of an HID or LED conversion kit (Note 6 ) or other incorrect light source, or

### Note 6

A high-intensity discharge (HID or Xenon HID) or LED conversion kit consists of an HID or LED bulb which fits into the original headlamp fog lamp unit in place of the original bulb with no change to the headlamp lens, reflector or housing.

It is illegal to fit an HID or LED conversion kit to a vehicle as it brings the headlamp out of standards compliance fog lamp out of specification by producing poor beam patterns and light that is often far too bright to be safe. The bulbs can also produce light that is noticeably blue and not the required substantially white or amber colour. Vehicle and headlamp Fog lamp manufacturers do not permit this modification, and these kits cannot be LVV certified.

It is permitted to replace a complete halogen headlamp fog lamp unit with a complete HID headlamp or LED fog lamp unit.

## 10-2 Hubs and axles

We're making minor changes to Reason for rejection 2 to improve detection of worn components.

These changes also apply to Motorcycles, General trailers, Forklifts and Unclassified vehicles.

2. A wheel bearing:

- a) has play beyond the manufacturer's specifications, or
- b) is over-tight or sounds rough: binding, or
- c) feels/sounds rough when rotated.

## 13-1 Engine and transmission

We're broadening the wording of Reason for rejection 1 to include other driveline components.

Reasons for rejection

Tables and images

Summary of legislation

### Condition

1. ~~The engine or gearbox is insecurely mounted:~~ An engine, gearbox, transfer case, differential or other driveline mounting is insecure.

## Motorcycles

### 10-2 Hubs and axles

See General vehicles.

### 13-1 Engine and transmission

See General vehicles.

## General trailers

### 10-2 Hubs and axles

See General vehicles.

## Forklifts, Unclassified vehicles

### 10-2 Hubs and axles

See General vehicles.

### 13-1 Engine and drive train

See General vehicles.

## Tractors

### 10-2 Hubs and axles

See General vehicles.

## Technical bulletins

### 16 Seatbelt repair and re-webbing

We're tidying up the wording throughout this bulletin, and adding a new sample to Figure 16-1-1.

#### Requirements for seatbelt repair

A seatbelt may only be legally repaired by the seatbelt manufacturer or their authorised agent.

There are currently **no** mass-manufacturers or agents repairing seatbelts in New Zealand.

Re-webbing a seatbelt is considered to be a repair.

Waka Kotahi has provided an exemption to the following companies to re-web seatbelts manufactured by other seatbelt providers:

- APV Australia
- Autosafe Ltd, Christchurch
- Belt Tech NZ Ltd, Wellington
- Seatbelts NZ Ltd
- Seatbelt Manufacturers NZ Ltd.

Further companies will be added to this list as they are approved.

#### Identifying compliant re-webbed seatbelts

To be compliant a re-webbed seatbelt **must** have a label with an exemption number ([Figure 16-1-1](#)) and either an exemption letter (paper copy in the vehicle) or be confirmed on the websites below.

- For Autosafe use the 'Look Up REGO' function found on the [Autosafe website](#)
- For Seatbelts NZ Ltd use the check vehicle function on the [Seatbelts NZ Ltd website](#)
- For Belt Tech NZ Ltd enter the last six digits of the vehicle's VIN to look up the vehicle on the [Belt Tech NZ Ltd website](#)
- For Seatbelt Manufacturers NZ Ltd an exemption letter is required
- APV are not actively re-webbing seatbelts but these must also have an exemption letter.

#### Identifying non-compliant re-webbed seatbelts

Seatbelts that are re-webbed without an exemption from Waka Kotahi may not be accepted for a WoF or CoF.

**Most non-compliant re-webbed seatbelts are done in a way to hide that they are re-webbed.** The following indicators are the best way to identify a non-compliant re-webbed seatbelt:

- incorrectly fitted hardware such as buckles on webbing that looks new
- new webbing, or webbing that looks newer than the other seatbelts in the vehicle, with the same compliance tags as the original seat belts
- the same identification tags as the original belts with a different stitch pattern
- a compliance label that is different to the other seatbelts that is not from a typical manufacturer
- no compliance labels fitted on new webbing or a new seatbelt.

*If you identify a non-compliant re-webbed seatbelt, please take clear photos and report it to Waka Kotahi by emailing the details to [vehicles@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:vehicles@nzta.govt.nz)*

#### Getting a seatbelt re-webbed

If you are trying to help a vehicle owner to get their seatbelt re-webbed it is important that you only use an approved company. Waka Kotahi is aware that there are other companies who re-web seatbelts - this is an illegal activity. Autosafe Ltd, APV, Seatbelts NZ Ltd, Seatbelt Manufacturers NZ Ltd and Belt Tech NZ Ltd have been granted exemptions to re-web seatbelts, having been granted these exemptions under strict conditions.

Autosafe has a list of seatbelt installers on its website that is regularly updated. There are three specialist installers in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch and a number of other organisations that can assist with seatbelt installations. The list is available at [www.autosafe.co.nz](http://www.autosafe.co.nz)

# Sample labels

Figure 16-1-1. Sample Autosafe Ltd, Seatbelts NZ Ltd, Belt Tech NZ Ltd and Seatbelt Manufacturers NZ Ltd labels

