

Correct as at 27th June 2026. It may be superseded at any time.

Extract taken from: Entry certification > Inspection and certification > Brakes > Service brake and park brake (heavy vehicles)

8-1 Service brake and park brake (heavy vehicles)

See also [Heavy vehicle brake testing: CoF and entry certification brake test protocol and procedure](#)

Reasons for rejection

Mandatory equipment

1. A vehicle does not comply with a requirement relating to mandatory equipment set out in:

- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 8-1, heavy vehicles](#)

2. A vehicle in Table 8-1-2 does not have proof of compliance with requirements in that table.

Condition, performance and modification

3. A vehicle or brake does not comply with a requirement relating to condition, performance or modification set out in:

- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 8-1, heavy vehicles](#)

Note 1

Where required, an entry certifier must obtain a declaration from a recognised technician stating that the anti-lock braking system is within safe tolerance of the manufacturer's specifications. See [Technical bulletin 29](#) for further information on SRS/ABS declarations.

Table 8-1-2. Heavy-vehicle brakes – compliance requirements for class MD3, MD4, ME, NB and NC vehicles¹

| Conditions applying | Requirements |
|--|--|
| <p>Imported, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • first registered in New Zealand 1 March 2007 to 30 June 2008, and • operated in a combination with a GM² >39?44 t | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HVBS(2) Heavy Vehicle Braking Specification of 6 December 1998, or • HVBC(2) Heavy Vehicle Brake Code, second edition, or • HVBNZ New Zealand Heavy Vehicle Brake Specification, or • At least one approved standard in Table 8-1-3 |
| <p>Manufactured in New Zealand, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • first registered in New Zealand 1 March 2007 to 30 June 2008, and • operated in a combination with a GM² >39?44 t | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HVBS(2) Heavy Vehicle Braking Specification of 6 December 1998, or • HVBC(2) Heavy Vehicle Brake Code, second edition, or • HVBNZ New Zealand Heavy Vehicle Brake Specification |
| <p>Imported⁴ first registered in New Zealand on or after 1/7/2008</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least one approved standard in Table 8-1-3 |
| <p>Manufactured in New Zealand, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • first registered on or after 1 July 2008, and • with a towing connection for towing a heavy trailer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HVBNZ, New Zealand Heavy Vehicle Brake Specification |
| <p>Manufactured in New Zealand and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • first registered on or after 1 July 2008, and • with no towing connection for towing a heavy trailer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HVBNZ New Zealand Heavy Vehicle Brake Specification, or • stopping tests in 6.1(2)(b) of Heavy-vehicle Brake Rule |

¹ Not applicable to mobile cranes except those constructed using a commercial truck chassis.

³ GM means gross mass.

⁴ Imported in this case includes heavy PSVs that are manufactured in New Zealand from imported transport frame/chassis which comply with an approved brake standard in Table 8-1-3.

Table 8-1-3. Approved brake standards for class MD3, MD4, ME, NB and NC vehicles*

| UN-ECE Regulation no. | EEC/EC Directive | FMVSS | ADR | Japan |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-----|---|
| 13 | 71/320 91/422 98/12 2002/78 | 105 (Hydraulic and Electric Brake Systems); or 121 (Air Brake Systems) | 35 | TS for brake systems of trucks and buses (Japan); or TS for anti-lock brake system (Japan) Article 12 |

* A brake that is required to comply with an approved brake standard must comply with at least one of the standards listed in the table.

- [Technical bulletin 31](#) clarifies brake standards requirements for class MD3, MD4, ME, NB and NC vehicles.

Summary of legislation

Applicable legislation

- [Land Transport Rule: Heavy-vehicle Brakes 2006](#).

Mandatory equipment

1. Vehicles must comply with the requirements relating to mandatory equipment set out in:

- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 8-1, heavy vehicles](#).

2. The brakes on class MD3, MD4, ME, NB and NC vehicles must comply with the requirements in Table 8-1-2.

Condition, performance and modification

3. Brakes must be easily adjustable to compensate for wear and must be maintained in good condition and efficient working order.

4. Vehicles and brakes must also comply with the requirements relating to condition, performance and modification out in:

- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 8-1, heavy vehicles](#).