

Correct as at 19th June 2026. It may be superseded at any time.

Extract taken from: Entry certification > Inspection and certification > Exhaust > Exhaust system and silencer

11-1 Exhaust system and silencer

Reasons for rejection

Mandatory equipment

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

- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, general vehicles](#)
- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, heavy vehicles](#)
- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, light PSVs](#)
- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, heavy PSVs](#)

Compliance with approved standards

2. A class LC, LD, LE, MA, MB, MC, MD1, MD2, MD3, MD4, ME, NA, NB or NC vehicle, other than one listed in Table 11-1-1, manufactured on or after 1 January 1985 and certified for entry on or after 1 June 2008:

- a) did not comply, or cannot be demonstrated to have complied, with at least one of the approved standards listed in Table 11-1-2 at the time the vehicle was manufactured, or
- b) exceeded the noise limits in Table 11-1-2 when it was tested in accordance with the standards in Table 11-1-2 at the time the vehicle was manufactured, or
- c) does not have evidence that the vehicle has passed an LVVTA objective noise test, for instance:
 - i. the owner cannot produce a valid 'Objective exhaust noise emission test certificate' (Figure 11-1-1), or
 - ii. the exhaust system tailpipe is not fitted with a valid LVVTA noise test label (Figure 11-1-2) **or an appropriate LVV data plate (Figure 11-1-3)**

Condition and performance

3. A vehicle does not comply with the requirements relating to condition and performance set out in:

- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, general vehicles](#)
- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, heavy vehicles](#)
- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, light PSVs](#)
- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, heavy PSVs](#)

Table 11-1-1. Vehicles deemed to comply with approved noise standards and drive-by noise limits

<p>Evidence of compliance with an approved noise standard and noise limit is not required for the following vehicles:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any vehicle that may be entry certified because it already meets all other approved vehicle standards applicable to the vehicle • any vehicle manufactured for a market that requires compliance with FMVSS, ECE, EEC, ADR or Japanese standards

Table 11-1-2. List of approved noise standards and drive-by noise limits

<p>A vehicle manufactured on or after 1985 for which evidence of compliance with an approved standard and noise level is required must comply with the following:</p>		
Approved noise standard	Vehicle class	Maximum noise level (dBA)
ISO 362	LC, LD, LE (engine capacity of 125 cc or less)	82
BS 3425		86
SAE J1470	LC, LD, LE (engine capacity more than 125 cc)	81
ADR 28/01	MA, MB, MC, MD1, MD2, NA	86
TRIAS 20	MD3, MD4, ME, NB, NC (power output 150 kW or less)	88
	MD3, MD4, ME, NB, NC (power output more than 150 kW)	

Figure 11-1-1. Objective exhaust noise emission test certificate



Objective Exhaust Noise Emission Test Certificate

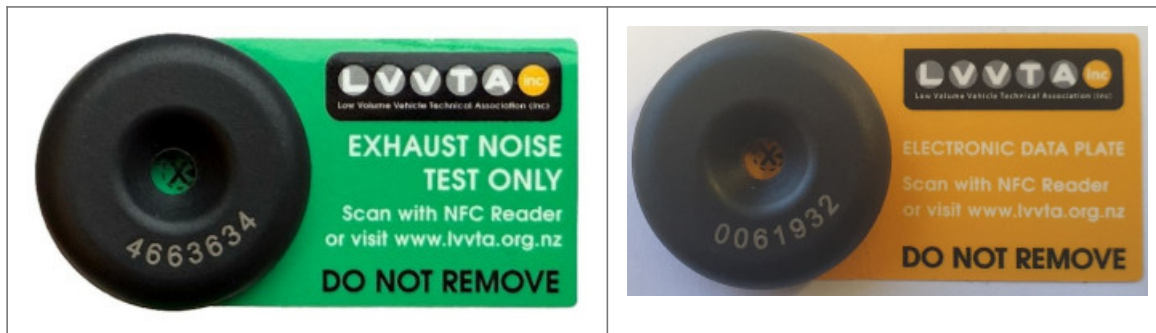
Vehicle and owner details: (white copy for vehicle owner)			
Owner: (Name)		(Contact Ph #) ()	
Vehicle: (Make)		(Model)	(Sub-model)
(Year)	(Colour)	(VIN)	
Engine: (Make)		(Code if known)	(Modified?)
(Cylinder configuration & #)		(Camshaft & valve arrangement)	
Exhaust system description & details:			
(a) Exhaust manifold(s): (make/type)			
(b) Front pipe(s): (OD/material/length)			
(c) Muffler(s)/resonator(s) #1: (make/material/length/OD)			
(d) Intermediate pipe(s): (OD/material/length)			
(e) Muffler(s)/resonator(s) #2: (make/material/length/OD)			
(f) Tail-pipe(s): (OD/material/length)			
(g) Other exhaust system details: (catalytic convertor(s)/balance pipe/additional mufflers/other)			
Low Volume Vehicle Certifier's declaration:			
LVV Certifier: (Name)		(ID)	(Contact Ph #) ()
<input type="checkbox"/> PASS:	Approval label: (Number)	(Location of label)	
I, the above-named Low Volume Vehicle Certifier appointed by the Low Volume Vehicle Technical Association (Inc) for the purpose of Objective Exhaust Noise Emission Testing, declare that, I carried out an objective exhaust noise emission test on the above-described vehicle in accordance with the procedures specified by Low Volume Vehicle Standard 90-20, and confirm that at the time of testing the vehicle complied with all requirements of, and emitted exhaust noise emissions not exceeding that specified by, Low Volume Vehicle Standard 90-20. (Signed)..... (Date).....			LVV certifier's authentication (only if pass is recorded): <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> [Authenticity sticker with hologram security feature] </div>
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIL:	Recommendations to vehicle owner on bringing the exhaust system into compliance (expert advice is offered without any guarantees of a pass as a result of the advice given or implied):		
Vehicle exhaust system schematic:			

© Copyright warning: Note that it is an offence for this form to be produced, or reproduced, in whole or in part, by any person unless by written request from an appointed representative of either the Low Volume Vehicle Technical Association (Inc) or Land Transport New Zealand. ©

Figure 11-1-2. Objective noise test label



Figure 11-1-3. Green objective noise test electronic data plate and orange electronic data plate



From September 2025 a vehicle that passes an objective noise test (ONT) will be fitted with an electronic data plate (EDP), which will include either a green or orange label.

The green label indicates the EDP only contains ONT information, however the vehicle may also have an older style LVV engraved certification plate.

The orange label will be used when the vehicle has been LVV certified for modifications and may only cover modifications, but where an ONT is required and passed the EDP will cover both the ONT data and the LVV certified modifications.

Figure 11-1-4. Sample of objective noise test data

OBJECTIVE NOISE TEST (ONT) CERTIFICATION DETAILS	
ONT Date	04 Jun 2025
Manifold	
Front Pipe(s)	60mm OD Steel 550mm long
Muffler/Resonator	N/A
Intermediate Pipe(s)	2 x 50mm OD Steel 750mm long into Y pipe
2nd Muffler/Resonator	2 x 400mm x 100mm
Tail Pipe(s)	2 x 600mm x 45 OD into 2 x 500mm x 63 OD stainless, aftermarket rear sections
Other Exhaust System Details	Silencer plugs fitted to exhaust tips
Certifier	
Certifier ID	
Note	

Summary of legislation

Applicable legislation

- [Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Equipment 2004](#)

Mandatory equipment

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

- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, general vehicles](#)
- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, heavy vehicles](#)
- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, light PSVs](#)
- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, heavy PSVs](#)

Compliance with approved standards

2. A class LC, LD, LE, MA, MB, MC, MD1, MD2, MD3, MD4, ME, NA, NB or NC vehicle manufactured on or after 1 January 1985 and certified for entry on or after 1 June 2008 must comply with:

- a) an approved standard and not exceed the relevant noise limit, as specified in Table 11-1-2, or
- b) the LVVTA objective noise test.

Condition and performance

3. The exhaust system and silencer must comply with the requirements relating to condition and performance set out in the relevant section of the VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1.

Modification

4. A vehicle must comply with the requirements relating to modifications set out in:

- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, general vehicles](#)
- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, heavy vehicles](#)
- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, light PSVs](#)
- [VIRM: In-service certification, section 11-1, heavy PSVs.](#)

