

MOT SPECIAL NOTICE



Vehicle & Operator Services Agency

Issue Number

5-2003

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August 2003

All Authorised Examiners and Designated Councils in Classes :

Class VII

The last Special Notice issued was

4 - 2003 All Classes

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Item 1 Introduction of Lightweight Class V Testing in Class VII Test Stations

From September 1st 2003 Class VII Authorised Examiners, providing they have suitable equipment, may apply for authorisation to test lightweight Class V vehicles (Class VL).

Class VL covers private passenger vehicles having 13 – 16 passenger seats and a design gross weight of no more than 3500kg.

Class VL **does not** include any vehicle, which is required to undergo a seatbelt installation check. These vehicles must be presented at a Class V station authorised to carry out these checks.

The application must be made using the VT1 application form, ensuring that Class V is circled and the word '**lightweight**' printed below. No other method of application will be accepted.

AEs must obtain an up to date copy of the Class V Inspection Manual price £25.00, which is available from Swansea PO Box 12, Swansea SA1 2DH. Tel No 01792 470470

NT's wishing to test these vehicles must demonstrate an acceptable Class VL test to their local Vehicle Examiner before being allowed to test these vehicles. They should familiarise themselves with the additional procedure and standards in the Class V inspection manual before contacting their local area office to arrange a demonstration test. It would also be useful for NTs to watch the video '5 in to 7 will go!' as an aide memoir, which was issued with the April 03 edition of Matters of Testing.

Steve Tonks

Head of MOT Compliance and Computerisation

All Nominated Testers should sign below to confirm that they have read and understood the contents of this Special Notice relevant to NTs for the classes they test. AEs must keep a copy of the signed SN on their records.

SPECIAL NOTICE 5 - 2003 ANNEX A

APPLICATION FROM EXISTING CLASS VII STATIONS TO BE AUTHORISED TO TEST CLASS VL (LIGHTWEIGHTS)

GUIDANCE FOR APPLICATIONS

- From September 1st 2003 applications may be made from existing class VII stations to be authorised to test Lightweight Class V vehicles. These will be a sub class of Class V vehicles. This sub class will be up to and including 16 passengers seats and which do not exceed 3500 kilograms Design Gross Weight (DGW).
- VTSs will be required to have an approved and calibrated 1996 specification Exhaust Gas Analyser.
- Each piece of equipment will require to be checked to ensure that it is suitable to test Class V vehicles (i.e. some computerised equipment may not have the software entered by the manufacturer to allow the testing of Class V vehicles) .

Note: A plate brake tester is not currently on the list of acceptable equipment for Class V vehicles. Advice can be obtained from your local VOSA Area Office.

- The Authorised Examiner (AE) will be required to purchase for use by their Nominated Testers, the current MOT Inspection Manual for Class V Private Bus Testing (Vehicles with 13 or more seats). This is obtainable from the Vehicle & Operators Services Agency, PO Box 12, Welcombe House, Swansea SA1 1BP. This is a temporary manual using glossy pages, which will be replaced when MOT Computerisation is rolled out to VTSs, this is reflected in the price of £25.
- The AE should make available to their Nominated Testers (NT) a copy of the video '**5 into 7 will go**', enclosed with April 03 edition of Matters Of Testing issue 19, sent to all Class VII stations.
- In all cases application must be submitted on form No VT 1. Below are guidance notes to assist when answering the questions on the form.
- The AE will **NOT** be required to include any **ENCLOSURES** for the Authorisation, as asked for in the guidance notes given in the VT 1.
- When the VT 1 form has been completed, include a copy of this form with a list of Nominated Testers who will require to complete a Demonstration Test for Class VL vehicles. These forms should be sent to the Authorised Examiner's local VOSA Area Office.

NOTE: It is the Authorised Examiner's responsibility to ensure that Nominated Testers have the appropriate Driving Licence class to allow a road test to take place should it be necessary.

GUIDANCE FOR THE COMPLETION OF VT 1 FORM

Question 1

- This **must** be complete with the AE Number (if available) and the VTS Number. These can be found on the VT 9 displayed on the MOT Notice Board.

Question 2

- To be completed using the reason for application as 'additional test class'.

Question 3

- The application must come from the legal entity with control and responsibility for MOT testing.

Question 4

- Name of applicant

Question 5

- Name under which the applicant will be trading at this site.

