

MOT SPECIAL NOTICE



Vehicle & Operator Services Agency

Issue Number

6-2003

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September 2003

All Authorised Examiners and Designated Councils in Classes :

All Classes

The last Special Notice issued was

5- 2003 Class VII

4- 2003 All Classes

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Item 1 Reduce Vehicle Crime poster

The government has set a target of a 30% reduction in vehicle crime by September 2004. One of the ways of seeking to achieve this is to encourage motorists to take a series of simple measures to protect their vehicles.

To increase awareness amongst the motoring public, these measures are being publicised as widely as possible.

VTS Involvement

To assist in raising awareness of how vehicle crime can be reduced, can you please place the enclosed poster in a prominent position where vehicle presenters can easily read it.

VOSA would like to thank you in advance for displaying the poster, and helping to make vehicle presenters more aware of how to prevent vehicle crime.

The enclosed poster is in English, These posters are also available in Welsh. If you would like a copy of the Welsh poster please contact 0845 600 5977.

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.

Item 2 Release of new Diesel Smoke Meter

New specification Diesel Smoke Meters have been available from 1 June 2003. These new meters have been designed to be able to deal with lower emission levels from new generation diesel engines and incorporate the fast pass smoke test software. They will have the ability to communicate directly with the MOT Computerisation scheme.

Use of the new specification DSM's will become compulsory after 31 December 2008, however, old specification smoke meters will remain as acceptable equipment for existing VTS until this date.

New applicants to the scheme after 1st January 2004 will only be authorised with the new specification meter.

You should check that a GEA Certificate of Acceptance (for the model you choose) has been issued when buying a new specification DSM.

Item 3 Roller and plate brake tester calibration certificates

Roller and plate brake testers are required to be calibrated every 6 months against certain specified values, which are contained within the specification for acceptable equipment. These values are also detailed in the MOT Testing Guide for classes I, II, III, IV and VII, and in appendix D of the Private Bus Testing Inspection manual for class V, but some of the information has been printed incorrectly.

It is therefore possible that some calibration certificates have been issued, which do not comply with the correct calibration values.

Any calibration certificates that have been issued with the incorrect values will still be regarded as valid and no action is required. However, Authorised Examiner's are required to check that future calibration certificates contain the correct information and specify the correct values, which are detailed below.

Calibration certificates must include a record of the test load, gauge readings and percentage error. Certificates must therefore show that brake force accuracy has been checked at the following values:

RBT

Class	Kgf	Kgf	Kgf	Kgf	Kgf
I & II	0	50	100	200	300
III & IV	0	100	200	400	600/800
V (low range)	0	100	200	400	600/800
V (high range)	1200/1500	2000/2500	3500/4000		
VII	0	200	400	600/800	1200/1500

PBT

I & II	0	30	100	200	
III & IV	0	30	100	200	600
VII	0	100	200	600	1000

Accuracy

Brake force readings shall be accurate to within;

+/- 3 kgf of the true value from zero up to and including 100 kgf

+/- 3% of the true value for all readings above 100 kgf

Calibration certificates for brake testers are to contain the following (or similar) statement:-

"This is to certify that the above brake test equipment has been calibrated and is within the limits specified by VOSA."

Authorised Examiner's should also delete Appendix 2, paragraph 5.5.c of the MOT Testing Guide and Class V AE's should also delete Appendix D, paragraph 6.c of the Class V manual.

To allow calibrating engineers' sufficient time to address this issue, there will be an additional period up to the 31st December 2003 during which certificates specifying the values published in the MOT Testing Guide or Class V Inspection Manual will still be accepted.