

## Type-Approval Procedure

### Information System of the German Type-Approval Authority

**Not examined English translation!**  
**Valid is only the German-language original!**

Directive 94/20/EC Annex VII, clearance for coupling balls

#### Question or problem:

According to Directive 94/20/EC, Annex VII, coupling balls of vehicles pertaining to the classes  $M_1$ ,  $M_2 < 3.5$  t, and  $N_1$  are required to have the clearances described in figure 30.

The lateral view shown in figure 30 has given rise to questions or misinterpretations with respect to the required clearance.

#### Solution:

In Directive 94/20/EC, Annex VII, figure 30, the angle of  $45^\circ$  applies from above the ball to a vertical border line that lies no more than 100 mm behind the base of the clearance. The extension of the  $45^\circ$  line beyond the 100 mm border line is only for measuring purposes.

Figure 25 of ECE Regulation 55-01 contains other parameters in this matter that are less confusing.

In addition, it is being determined that, in reference to § 30 of the German type approval act (StVZO), the fulfillment of the requirements concerning the clearances also applies for vehicles that are exempted under Directive 94/20/EC, Annex VII, para. 2.1.1, e.g. vehicles class  $N_2$ , and for which type approvals are being or have been granted in accordance with national regulations.

In the national design type approval procedure for coupling balls, the clearances must comply with the requirements of DIN 74058.

The said requirements do not apply for off-road vehicles referred to in Annex II of Directive 92/53/EEC.

In their respect, please refer to info sheet 04-01, which deals with clearances of off-road vehicles.

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412-6004  
Arnold Wippich