

Type-Approval Procedure

Information System of the German Type-Approval Authority

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Valid is only the German-language original!

Indication of Axle Loads in Approval Documents and Registration Certificates

Question or Problem:

Introduction of the new registration certificates pursuant to EC Directive 1999/37/EC also impacts the indication of permissible axle loads. The technically permissible axle loads as well as the maximum permissible axle loads applicable in the respective member state must be indicated in Part I of the registration certificate.

Based on initial experiences with the new registration certificates, the question arose as to how to make these indications for vehicles with so-called axle groups.

Conclusion:

International provisions on masses and dimensions as well as Directive 96/53/EC on maximum permissible weights in cross-border traffic and section 34 of the Road Traffic Type Approval Law (StVZO) regulating axle loads and maximum permissible weights each take reference to the indication of the permissible masses for single, double, or triple axles.

Axle group is defined as follows in Directive 97/27/EC:

"The axle group refers to axles as part of the axle aggregate. In case of two axles the group is called a double axle and in case of three axles it is called a triple axle. A single axle is deemed an axle group made up of only one axle."

The previous Directive, regulating vehicle registration, has already required that for double axles in terms of section 34 StVZO, the axle load applicable to such a double axle be entered in the vehicle documents. The same procedure is described in the Federal Motor Vehicle Department (Kraftfahrt-Bundesamtes (KBA)) guideline for the completion of registration certificates.

This means the following:

In field 7 and the following "Technically permissible maximum axle load / mass per axle group" and in field 8 and the following "Maximum permissible axle load in the respective member state" the axle group loads / masses must always be indicated.

However, in field L the actual number of individual axles must be indicated.

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The basis for the registration certificate's data are the approval documents, certificates of conformity (CoC) and data confirmations. In order to allow for proper and accurate data transfer and adoption, it is vital that such documents include the information as described above.

Since it cannot be seen from the above-mentioned documents whether the specified axles are single axles or axle groups, it is necessary that the Technical Services and manufacturers enter the loads / masses of the respective axle configurations in the relevant documents as described above.

The same applies to class M1 vehicles (e.g. double-axle RVs), even if the CoC does not provide for a differentiation between axles and axle groups.

Flensburg, 14 November 2005
412-208.01
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