

Type-Approval Procedure

Information System of the German Type-Approval Authority

Annotations about alternate parts or references to “equivalent devices” within the scope of type approvals pursuant to UNECE Regulations (e.g. numbers 16, 28, 43, 46, 48, 53, 74, 81, 110)

Question or Issue:

For various UNECE regulations, the communication forms and information documents on vehicle type approvals require a list of the ECE approval marks for the individual components used in the vehicle (e.g. for windscreens as per UNECE Regulation No. 43 or for rearview mirrors as per UNECE Regulation No. 46). The annotations about alternate parts as used in the national type approvals are not included in the scope of the UNECE regulations.

Only Section 3.2.2. of the UNECE regulations concerning the installation of lighting and light-signalling devices (regulation numbers 48, 53 and 74) contain the remark that this list may include the additional annotation “or equivalent devices”.

This gives rise to the following question:

Does the annotation “or equivalent devices” permitted in the regulations on the installation of lighting and light-signalling devices also apply with regard to other regulations?

Answer:

In general, this annotation can only be added to the list of type-approved components in those regulatory acts that contain a remark about “equivalent devices”.

Therefore, in the future, annotations about “equivalent devices” shall no longer be included in the list of approved components in the documents describing the vehicle types (with the exception of descriptions concerning the installation of lighting and light-signalling devices). This does not apply to previously granted approvals and extensions, although such annotations about alternate parts or “equivalent devices” contained therein should be deleted with the next extension.

Any included annotations about alternate parts or references to equivalent devices, unless they are permitted in accordance with the regulation, cannot be taken into account when checking the conformity of the respective vehicle types and will thus be assessed as a deviation from the type approval.

For circumstances not explicitly mentioned here, these provisions shall apply analogously.

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