

Type-Approval Procedure

Information System of the German Type-Approval Authority

Directives 97/68/EC and 2000/25/EC

Preparing approvals under the flexibility scheme for agricultural or forestry tractors and dealing with discrepant timetables relating to tractors of categories T2, T4.1 and C2 in the context of the flexibility scheme

Aspects or problems to be addressed:

The flexibility scheme referred to in Directive 97/68/EC allows an original equipment manufacturer to order from an engine manufacturer, even after an emission limits stage has expired, **engines** of this very stage for a certain period and in limited quantities. From Directive 2000/25/EC it follows that according to the flexibility scheme the tractor manufacturer is allowed to put into service a limited number of **tractors** fitted with engines of the emission limits stage that has only just expired.

According to Article 4 (9) of Directive 2000/25/EC the type approval dates and timetables for engines of stages IIIB and IV for tractors of categories T2, T4.1 and C2 will be postponed for three years. As a consequence, the timetables for the flexibility scheme of this Directive will be postponed as well.

Unlike that, 97/68/EC does not provide for such a deferment since it gives attention to one particular subject, viz. mobile machinery. Annex III to Directive 2000/25/EC stipulates that engines type approved pursuant to Directive 97/68/EC are recognized to be equivalent and may hence be installed in agricultural or forestry tractors.

From this, the following questions arise:

1. Which flexibility scheme is to be applied with regard to agricultural or forestry tractors and what action do tractor manufacturers have to take who wish to fit their tractors with engines complying with Directive 97/68/EC?
2. How to take account of the deferment of deadlines relating to tractors of categories T2, T4.1 and C2 as provided for in Directive 2000/25/EC if engines type approved to Directive 97/68/EC are involved?

Conclusions:

Re 1:

While Directive 97/68/EC deals with the placing on the market of engines, Directive 2000/25/EC deals with the placing on the market of agricultural or forestry tractors. This distinction calls for the establishment of a flexibility scheme in line with Directive 97/68/EC and a flexibility scheme in line with Directive 2000/25/EC in order to fully cover tractors being furnished with engines satisfying the requirements of 97/68/EC.

It has been determined to follow the line of action set out below to facilitate the procedure:

- Flexibility schemes for agricultural or forestry tractors will in future be granted **depending on the type approval of the engine used**, with reference to both Directive 97/68/EC and Directive 2000/25/EC.
- If engines are mounted which have been type approved to Directive 2000/25/EC, the approval will be granted solely in conformity with the flexibility scheme set out in Directive 2000/25/EC.
- If engines are mounted which have been type approved to Directive 97/68/EC, the approval granted upon request of the tractor manufacturer will give due regard to the flexibility schemes for the engines under Directive 97/68/EC (and the timetables stated therein) and for the tractors under Directive 2000/25/EC.
- To enable Kraftfahrt-Bundesamt (KBA) to see whether the tractor in question is covered by Directive 2003/37/EC, the manufacturers must make an explicit statement to this effect in the application. For this purpose, the entry may be made until further notice in the KBA Guideline form in the column headed “**Type/Types** (Type(s) of equipment/OEM type(s))” and the identification of type may be prefixed with the type approval number (e. g. tractor category T1, e1*2003/37*0123*45, type XYZ).
- In case a flexibility scheme in conformity with Directive 97/68/EC is already in place, the manufacturer has to make a statement to this effect when applying for the flexibility scheme in accordance with Directive 2000/25/EC. If foreign flexibility schemes according to Directive 97/68/EC are involved, the documents to be submitted must be accompanied by a copy of the vehicle approval certificate.

Re 2:

As far as engines of emission limits stages IIIB and IV are concerned which are intended to be installed in tractors of categories T2, T4.1 and C2, Directive 2000/25/EC requires that the deadlines listed below be complied with. The three year period of postponement has been included therein:

Table 1: New types of tractors:

Emission limits stage	Category	Power range	Mandatory application date
IIIB	L	130 < 560 kW	2013-01-01
	M	75 < 130 kW	2014-01-01
	N	56 < 75 kW	2014-01-01
	P	37 < 56 kW	2015-01-01
IV	Q	130 < 560 kW	2016-01-01
	R	56 < 130 kW	2016-10-01

Table 2: Placing on the market/first registration of all sorts of tractors:

Emission limits stage	Category	Power range	Mandatory application date
IIIB	L	130 < 560 kW	2014-01-01
	M	75 < 130 kW	2015-01-01
	N	56 < 75 kW	2015-01-01
	P	37 < 56 kW	2016-01-01
IV	Q	130 < 560 kW	2017-01-01
	R	56 < 130 kW	2017-10-01

Directive 2000/25/EC stipulates that from the dates listed below approvals as provided for under the flexibility scheme are obligatory and to be submitted for first registration of tractors of categories T2, T4.1 and C2 of emission limits stages IIIA and IIIB. The three year period of postponement has been included in these dates:

Table 3: Flexibility scheme for tractors of emission limits stages IIIA and IIIB obligatory with regard to registration:

Emission limits stage	Category	Power range	Mandatory application date
IIIA	H	130 < 560 kW	2014-01-01
	I	75 < 130 kW	2015-01-01
	J	56 < 75 kW	2015-01-01
	J	37 < 56 kW	2016-01-01
IIIB	L	130 < 560 kW	2017-01-01
	M	75 < 130 kW	2017-10-01
	N	56 < 75 kW	2017-10-01

- In case of flexibility schemes according to Directive 2000/25/EC which are to be approved on an individual basis the dates for the placing on the market of the tractors will be adapted accordingly provided the tractor category is known.
- In case of combined approvals under the flexibility scheme the dates for the placing on the market of the tractors will be adapted accordingly provided the tractor category is known, and entered in the combined approvals.
- Manufacturers of tractors of categories T2, T4.1 and C2 are required to expressly notify KBA that the tractors fall into these categories.
- Approvals which have already been granted under the flexibility scheme according to 97/68/EC may be extended against payment to cover Directive 2000/25/EC as well.

Notes:

Even the arrangements made under Directive 2000/25/EC to cover engines put on stock will be postponed for three years. If engines were manufactured prior to the date stated, the three year period must be added to the dates specified in Table 2.

For engines which have been type approved to Directive 2005/55/EC, no approval under the flexibility scheme can be granted since Directive 2005/55/EC does not provide for this kind of exemption.

The procedure will be applied with immediate effect for granting new approvals under the flexibility scheme. The Guideline providing details about the flexibility scheme will be revised before the end of 2014.

Flensburg, 2014-09-17
400-37/002-97/68/EG
Franziska Knizek