

Type-Approval Procedure

Information System of the German Type-Approval Authority

This IST replaces IST 02-02 and IST 02-09 (amendments in bold)

Installation and operating manual for coupling devices

Question or problem:

In accordance with **UN regulations no. 55 and no. 147, regulation (EU) 2015/208 (Annex XXXIV)** with **regulation (EU) 2016/1788** for coupling devices and the **Road Traffic Licensing Code, in conjunction with the Technical requirements no. 31 for coupling devices**, certain information is required for the user in order to inform them both regarding the measures needed for proper installation and regarding correct and safe operation (e.g. **UN regulation no. 55, point 4.6, UN regulation no. 147, point 6.3 and regulation (EU) 2015/208, Annex XXXIV, point 4.8**)

In general, it is possible to provide an installation and operating manual for download for this purpose. In addition to the digital format, however, it must contain a notice of how the user can receive a paper copy if needed.

The following section provides a summary of the information required; however, because of the many different installation methods and types of devices, this cannot cover all possible cases and should be seen as an example.

Result:

1. General information
 - Device designation
 - Type, any version
 - Approval designation (e.g. requirement of **regulation (EU) 2015/208, Annex XXXIV, point 4.8**)
 - Parameters, in table form if necessary (such as requirement of **regulation (EU) 2015/208, Annex XXXIV, point 4.8** in relation to the testing process)
 - References to regulations and similar (such as **UN regulation no. 55, Annex 7**; in this case, the text passages from the regulation should be used if this is expedient, or the notice should be replaced with the following sentence: "The mechanical coupling device must be installed on the vehicle in accordance with the requirements of **Annex 7 to UN regulation no. 55**")
 - Description of the other vehicle parts or vehicles on which the equipment may be installed.

2. Notices and requirements for installation
 - Sketches of the equipment (e.g. as simple exploded views)
 - Sketches to explain the installation (e.g. as simple exploded views)
 - Minimum tightening torques for screw connections
 - Description of welding process
 - Description of required welded seam quality
 - Work preparation for installation (e.g. removing corrosion protection agents)
 - Work process for installation
 - Testing for proper function

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3. Notices for operation:

- Notices for coupling
- Notices for locking
- Notices to secure the closed coupling device
- Notices for controlling devices
- Requirements for hydraulic systems

4. Notices for use:

- Description of the equipment to which a coupling system may be coupled, e.g. by indicating the device classes, the standards to which the equipment must conform, or the manufacturer and device types
- Description of the other coupling devices that may be installed, e.g. a coupling head in the case of a drawbar approval, or the coupling in case of an approval for a towing hitch
- Description of limit dimensions that must be complied with after additional equipment is installed, e.g. self-supporting length to the coupling point

5. Notices for maintenance:

- Function and display of wear indicators
- Checking wear parts
- Cleaning
- Lubrication
- Repair and exchange

6. Other notices:

- Notices for any installation testing (such as for welded connections) by experts, if this is required under the **approval**.
- In the case of coupling devices for installation on towing vehicles:
 - Notices of any change required to the vehicle registration documents by the regulatory authority (Sec. 13 para. 1 Vehicle Registration Act), for instance by using the text from the regulation or by the sentence: "Please refer to the requirements of Sec. 13 of the Vehicle Registration Act (FZV) regarding the data in the registration certificate with respect to permitted trailer load (no. O.1 and O.2) and the permitted static vertical load (no.: 13).
 - See the explanation of required measures in this respect (calculation of trailer load using the D value formula and comparison with relevant data from the vehicle registration documents). An example calculation may be helpful.

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Rita Valeria Beck