

Informal document GRB-55-16  
(55th GRB, 7-9 February 2012,  
agenda item 3(b))

# Reducing Noise Emissions from Motor Vehicles New EU Legislative proposal

**Working party on Noise (GRB) 55th meeting**

**7 - 9 February 2012**



**European Commission**  
Enterprise and Industry  
Automotive Unit

# Background

- **Noise emissions addressed by EU Directive 70/157/EEC and UNECE Regulation No. 51**
- **Limits reduced several times (lastly in 1995)**
- **Not expected effects**
- **WHO confirmed harmful effects of noise**
- **Commission strategy on clean and energy efficient vehicles (28.04.2010) includes measures to reduce noise**
- **New method adopted by GRB**
- **Monitoring period Regulation No 51 (July 2007- July 2010)**

## Proposal (1)

- Replace existing test method by new UNECE test method
- Proposed reduction based on the monitoring study to assess new test protocol and provide possible new limit values (VENOLIVA study by TNO)
- Impact assesment (cost/benefit analysis)
- Principles agreed by CARS 21 group

## Proposal (2): Lower noise limit values in 2 stages

- 1st stage: 2 years after publication (new types):
  - Cars, buses and light trucks: - 2 dB(A)
  - Heavy trucks: - 1 dB(A)
- 2nd stage: 5 years after publication for new types and 7 years after publication for all types
  - Cars, buses and light trucks: -2 dB(A);
  - Heavy trucks: -2 dB(A)

# Proposal (3)

Vehicle category	Description of vehicle category	Limit values expressed in dB(A) [decibels(A)]					
		Limit values for Type-approval of new vehicle types Phase 1 valid from [2 years after publication]		Limit values for Type-approval of new vehicle types Phase 2 valid from [5 years after publication]		Limit values for registration, sale and entry into service of new vehicles Phase 3 valid from [7 years after publication]	
		General	Off-road *	General	Off-road *	General	Off-road *
<b>M</b>	<b>Vehicles used for the carriage of passengers</b>						
M <sub>1</sub>	no of seats ≤ 9	70	71**	68	69**	68	69**
M <sub>1</sub>	no of seats ≤ 9; power to mass ratio > 150 kW/ton	71	71	69	69	69	69

# Proposal (4)

Vehicle category	Description of vehicle category	Limit values expressed in dB(A) [decibels(A)]					
		Limit values for Type-approval of new vehicle types Phase 1 valid from [2 years after publication]		Limit values for Type-approval of new vehicle types Phase 2 valid from [5 years after publication]		Limit values for registration, sale and entry into service of new vehicles Phase 3 valid from [7 years after publication]	
		General	Off-road *	General	Off-road *	General	Off-road *
M <sub>2</sub>	no of seats > 9; mass ≤ 2 tons	72	72	70	70	70	70
M <sub>2</sub>	no of seats > 9; 2 tons < mass ≤ 3.5 tons	73	74	71	72	71	72
M <sub>2</sub>	no of seats > 9; 3.5 tons < mass ≤ 5 tons; rated engine power < 150 kW	74	75	72	73	72	73
M <sub>2</sub>	no of seats > 9; 3.5 tons < mass ≤ 5 tons; rated engine power ≥ 150 kW	76	78	74	76	74	76

# Proposal (5)

Vehicle category	Description of vehicle category	Limit values expressed in dB(A) [decibels(A)]					
		Limit values for Type-approval of new vehicle types Phase 1 valid from [2 years after publication]		Limit values for Type-approval of new vehicle types Phase 2 valid from [5 years after publication]		Limit values for registration, sale and entry into service of new vehicles Phase 3 valid from [7 years after publication]	
		General	Off-road *	General	Off-road *	General	Off-road *
M <sub>3</sub>	no of seats > 9; mass > 5 tons; rated engine power < 150 kW	75	76	73	74	73	74
M <sub>3</sub>	no of seats > 9; mass > 5 tons; rated engine power ≥ 150 kW	77	79	75	77	75	77

# Proposal (6)

Vehicle category	Description of vehicle category	Limit values expressed in dB(A) [decibels(A)]					
		Limit values for Type-approval of new vehicle types Phase 1 valid from [2 years after publication]		Limit values for Type-approval of new vehicle types Phase 2 valid from [5 years after publication]		Limit values for registration, sale and entry into service of new vehicles Phase 3 valid from [7 years after publication]	
		General	Off-road *	General	Off-road *	General	Off-road *
N <sub>1</sub>	mass < 2 tons	71	71	69	69	69	69
N <sub>1</sub>	2 tons < mass < 3.5 tons	72	73	70	71	70	71
N <sub>2</sub>	3.5 tons < mass ≤ 12 tons; rated engine power < 75 kW	74	75	72	73	72	73
N <sub>2</sub>	3.5 tons < mass ≤ 12 tons; 75 ≤ rated engine power < 150 kW	75	76	73	74	73	74
N <sub>2</sub>	3.5 tons < mass ≤ 12 tons; rated engine power ≥ 150 kW	77	79	75	77	75	77
N <sub>3</sub>	mass > 12 tons; 75 ≤ rated engine power < 150 kW	77	78	75	76	75	76
N <sub>3</sub>	mass > 12 tons; rated engine power ≥ 150 kW	80	82	78	80	78	80





## Proposal (7)

- Derogations for certain vehicle types (sport cars, off road)
- Include additional sound emission provisions (ASEP) in type-approval procedure
- Including requirements regarding minimum noise of quiet vehicles:
  - Adequate sound generating devices used
  - Harmonisation of applied technology.
  - Installation not mandated (optional)

# Process of adoption

- 9 December 2011: EU Commission proposal
- 2012: Discussion of the text by the legislator (EU Council of ministers and EU Parliament)
- 2013: Publication?

# More information on the EU proposal ?

Commission proposal with impact assessment:

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/automotive/documents/proposals/index\\_en.htm#h2-1](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/sectors/automotive/documents/proposals/index_en.htm#h2-1)

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !

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