

Proposal for an amendment to UN Regulation No. 43

The text reproduced below has been prepared by the expert from Germany to introduce stipulations for the use of plastic safety glazing in side windows behind the B pillar more in line with the stipulations for glazing with a light transmittance below 70 per cent in that area. The modifications to the current text of the Regulation are marked in bold for new characters.

I. Proposal

Annex 21, paragraph 4.2.2., amend to read:

"4.2.2. Safety glazing requisite for the driver's rearward vision

4.2.2.1. The safety glazing defined in paragraph 2.23.2. of this Regulation shall have a light transmittance of at least 70 per cent, but where two exterior rear view mirrors are fitted, the glazing is allowed to have a light transmittance below 70 per cent, provided that it shall bear the additional symbol V specified in paragraph 5.5.2. of this Regulation.

4.2.2.2. Plastic safety glazing shall bear an additional symbol A/L or B/L, as defined in paragraphs 5.5.5. and 5.5.7. of this Regulation, **but where two exterior rear view mirrors are fitted, the glazing is allowed to bear the additional symbol A/M or B/M as defined in paragraphs 5.5.5. and 5.5.7. of this Regulation.**

As an alternative, the rear glazing in the folding roof of a convertible vehicle may bear the additional symbol /B/M.

The rear glazing in the folding roof of a convertible vehicle may be made of a flexible plastic pane."

II. Justification

The type-approval authorities of the member states of the European Union (TAAM) discussed during meetings in 2011 and 2013 the proper interpretation of section 4.2.2. of Annex 21 to the 01 series of amendments of UN Regulation No. 43. The majority of type-approval authorities always followed the exact wording of the Regulation and allowed plastic safety glazing as glazing of the side windows behind the B pillar only in case that the glazing is marked with the additional symbols A/L or B/L.

It seems on the other hand inconsistent to allow less than 70 per cent light transmittance - down to nearly 0 per cent, which means fully tinted glazing - if there are two exterior rear view mirrors but not to allow plastic safety glazing bearing the additional symbols A/M or B/M if the vehicle is equipped with exterior rear view mirrors in that way.

The stipulations of UN Regulation No. 43 are clear. Germany proposes an alignment of the resulting requirements for different glazing materials and would like to seek advice of GRSG on this subject.
