

Regulation No. 80 (Strength of seats and their anchorages (buses))

The text reproduced below has been prepared by the expert from Germany to amend the scope and the transitional provisions to avoid any misinterpretations for the installation of side-facing seats in vehicles of categories M3. The modifications to the current text of the Regulation are marked in **bold** for new or strikethrough for deleted characters.

A. Proposal

Paragraph 1.4., amend to read:

"1.4. The installation of side-facing seats shall be prohibited in vehicles of categories M2 (of class II, III and B) and M3 (of class II, III and B) **with the exception of vehicles of category M3 (of class II, III and B) of a technically permissible maximum laden mass exceeding 10 tonnes provided the requirements of paragraph 7.4. are met.**"

Paragraph 1.5., shall be deleted

Paragraph 1.6., renumber as paragraph 1.5.:

Paragraph 1.7., shall be deleted

Paragraph 12.5., shall be deleted

Paragraph 12.8., amend to read:

"12.8. As from 24 months after the date of entry into force of the 03 series of amendments Contracting Parties applying this Regulation shall grant approvals **for new vehicle types** only if the requirements of this Regulation, as amended by the 03 series of amendments, are satisfied."

Paragraphs 12.6. to 12.10., renumber as paragraphs 12.5. to 12.9.

B. Justification

The second series of amendments of UN-Regulation 80 banned side facing seats from vehicles of Category M2, Classes III and B and vehicles of category M3, Classes III and B with an exemption for vehicles of category M3, Class III of a technically permissible maximum laden mass exceeding 10 tonnes under certain conditions.

The exemption was limited until 01.11.2014 or until the adoption of new requirements concerning the testing and installation of side facing seats.

With the entry into force of the 3rd series of amendments on July, 26th 2012 this adoption has taken place. Since then, any vehicle approval using the exemption had to be amended to comply with the 3rd series of amendments, if side facing seats were to be used. Approvals referring to the exemption can no longer be granted.

This renders the relevant paragraphs obsolete. Therefore the text proposes to omit these paragraphs while maintaining the regulative and technical content of the original version with regard to side facing seats to avoid any misinterpretation.

Furthermore the proposal clarifies that the requirements of the 3rd series of amendments shall be mandatory for new vehicle types only, to provide the possibility to grant extensions to those approvals not referring to the exemption.