

Proposal for amendments to UN Regulation No. 48 (Uniform provisions concerning the approval of vehicles with regard to the installation of lighting and light signalling devices)

The text reproduced below was prepared by the expert from the International Association of the Body and Trailer Building Industry (CLCCR), introducing amendments to UN Regulation No. 48 to permit the installation of manoeuvring lamps on trailers. The modifications to the existing text are marked in **bold** for new and strikethrough for deleted characters.

I. Proposal

Paragraph 6.26.1, amend to read:

- “6.26.1. Presence
Optional on motor vehicles **and on trailers.**

Paragraph 6.26.2, amend to read:

- “6.26.2. Number
Motor vehicles - One or two (one per side)
Trailers – Maximum of Six (maximum of 3 per side)

- “6.26.4. Position
Motor vehicles – No special requirement.

Trailers - Manoeuvring lamps shall be mounted symmetrically on each side of the trailer. If the structure or design make it impossible to comply with such a requirement, the lamps shall be mounted as symmetrically as practicable. Lamps on any one side of the trailer shall be installed so that the distance between the apparent surfaces of two adjacent Manoeuvring lamps shall not be less than 1m.

Paragraph 6.26.7, amend to read:

- “6.26.7. Electrical Connections
Motor vehicles - Manoeuvring lamps shall be so connected that they cannot be activated unless the ~~the~~-main-beam headlamps or the dipped-beam headlamps of the motor vehicle are switched ON at the same time.

Trailers - Manoeuvring lamps shall be so connected that they cannot be activated unless the position lamps of the trailer are switched ON at the same time.

The manoeuvring lamp(s) shall be activated automatically for slow manoeuvres up to 10 km/h provided that one of the following conditions is fulfilled:

- (a) Prior to the vehicle being set in motion for the first time after each manual activation of the propulsion system; or
- (b) Reverse gear is engaged; or
- (c) A camera based system which assists parking manoeuvres is activated

The manoeuvring lamps shall be automatically switched off if the forward speed of the vehicle exceeds 10 km/h and they shall remain switched off until the conditions for activation are met again.

II. Justification

1. This proposal to amend UN Regulation No. 48 (on the approval of vehicles with regard to the installation of lighting and light signalling devices) submitted by the expert from CLCCR intends to improve the all-round visibility of trailers and vehicle combinations so to mitigate the risk of low speed manoeuvring accidents in low light conditions.
 2. UN Regulation No. 48 does not allow the installation of manoeuvring lamps on trailers at the point of type approval. Manoeuvring lamps are used to provide supplementary illumination to the side of the vehicle to assist during slow-speed manoeuvres. The current regulation only permits them to be installed on ‘Motor Vehicles’ – not trailers.
 3. An increasing number of companies and freight operators across the EU are installing manoeuvring lamps to trailers and vehicle combinations as a ‘post-registration’ installation, to provide better all-round visibility for the driver (and other workers) when in close proximity to low-speed manoeuvring vehicles. This is particularly relevant when reversing with a trailer.
 4. CLCCR proposes to amend the regulation to allow manoeuvring lamps to be installed on both motor vehicles and trailers for the benefit of safety.
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