

NATIONAL REGULATOR FOR COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS (NRCS)

FRAMEWORK FOR IMPROVEMENT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1958 AND THE 1998 UN ECE AGREEMENTS

WP29 SECRETARIAT WORKSHOP ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1958 AND THE 1998 AGREEMENTS

11 NOVEMBER 2019

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INTRODUCTION TO NRCS MANDATE

- THE NATIONAL REGULATOR FOR COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS (NRCS) IS A STATUTORY ENTITY ESTABLISHED IN TERMS OF THE NRCS ACT 5 OF 2008 (PRIOR 2008 KNOWN AS THE REGULATORY DIVISION WITHIN THE SABS)
- ESTABLISHED TO PROMOTE THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATION OF GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE PUBLIC AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE AREAS OF AUTOMOTIVE, ELECHTROTECHNICAL, FOODS, CHEMICALS MECHANICAL AND MATERIAL, METROLOGY AND NATIONAL BUILDING REGULATIONS
- NRCS MISSION STATEMENT:
 - *“TO DEVELOP COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS AND TECHNICAL REGULATIONS TO MAXIMISE COMPLIANCE OF REGULATED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES”*

OBJECTIVES OF NRCS

- **MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY WITH REGARDS TO COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS ALSO REFERRED TO AS TECHNICAL REGULATIONS**
 - The process developed in terms of the NRCS Regulations covers new Developments, Amendments, Withdrawals of Compulsory Specifications and or Regulations
 - Government is the key driver of the process and any member of the public can also request for the development of Compulsory requirements.
- **ADMINISTRATION AND MAINTENANCE OF COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS**
 - Custodian of the Compulsory Specifications
 - SABS is the custodian of National Standards (Not legal requirement)
 - Review the compulsory specifications – Need to upgrade
 - Implement process of recommendation to the Minister
- **APPROVALS, MARKET SURVEILLANCE AND SANCTIONING ACTIVITIES TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS**
 - Approval activities
 - Inspection Activities
 - Sampling and testing
 - Enforcement Activities on non-compliances

OBJECTIVES OF NRCS cont.

- **OBTAIN MEMBERSHIP OF, OR PARTICIPATE IN OR DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS WITH FOREIGN OR INTERNATIONAL BODIES:**
 - Contracting Party to International Agreements – WP.29 on Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations
 - Agreements with international and other foreign governmental standard bodies
- **PERFORM ANY OTHER FUNCTIONS AS ASSIGNED BY THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT**
 - Appointed as the Inspectorate of Manufacturers Importers and Builders
- **OBTAIN COOPERATION OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, LOCAL AUTHORITIES, OR OTHER PUBLIC BODIES**
 - National Department of Transport
 - International Trade Administration Commission
 - South African Revenue Services
- **ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT SERVICE PROVIDERS**
 - E.g. SABS
 - ESTABLISH SPECIALIST CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES (SCC) TO PROVIDE INPUT INTO – INTERPRET AND IMPLEMENT COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS – Nominations from Industry to formulate the committee

ACTIVITIES OF THE AUTOMOTIVE DIVISION

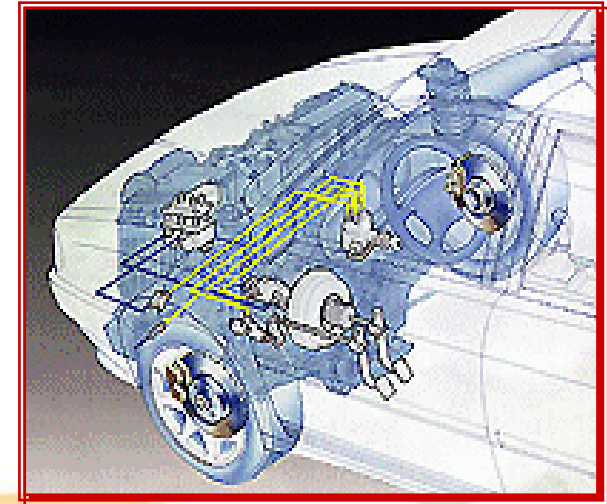
➤ ACTIVITIES OF THE AUTOMOTIVE DIVISION

- Mandate as per National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS Act 5 of 2008)
- Homologation of motor vehicle models and the approval of certain Automotive vehicle Components in terms of relevant compulsory specifications
- Granting Letters of Authorities as confirmation of compliance with relevant compulsory specifications – Vehicles and Components
- Market Surveillance inspections
 - Manufacturers and Importers
 - Ports of Entries
 - Retail markets
 - Investigations – Concerns
 - Sampling for testing purposes
- Mandate per National Road Traffic Act (Act 93 of 1996)
 - MIB Registration Recommendation – Initial assessment
 - Issue model numbers
 - Issue A Letter of Authorities (ALA)– Individual vehicles
 - Annual Inspections on registered MIBs

Whole Vehicle Homologation (Approval)

There are 8 Compulsory Specifications (Technical regulations), promulgated under the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act that relate to whole vehicle approval:

- Category M1 Vehicles – VC8022
- Category M2 and M3 Vehicles – VC8023
- Category N1, Vehicles – VC8024
- Category N2 and N3 Vehicles – VC 8025
- VC8026 for Category O1 and O2 Vehicles
- VC8027 for Category O3 and O4 Vehicles
- VC8057 for Agricultural tractors
- VC 9098 for Category L Vehicles



Whole Vehicle Homologation (cont.)

WHOLE VEHICLE HOMOLOGATION (APPROVAL) PROCESS:

Homologation rights rests with the MIB(Manufacturer/Importer and or Builder) concerned

1. Application received from registered manufacturer, importer and builder (MIB)
2. Agreement reached with NRCS Automotive regarding:
 - 2.1 Submission of documents that establish compliance
 - Model details
 - Summary of evidence
 - Application for homologation
 - Details of quality management system
 - Test reports from a test facility acceptable to NRCS
 - Evidence of payment of relevant fees paid
 - 2.2 Availability of the sample vehicle
 - 2.3 Venue for vehicle inspection

Whole Vehicle Homologation (cont.)

WHOLE VEHICLE HOMOLOGATION (APPROVAL) PROCESS cont...:

3. Once proof of compliance is established:

3.1 The Vehicle model is captured on the National Traffic Information System (NATIS) and a NATIS model number is created. Unique to each MIB.

3.2 The MIB is issued with the NATIS model number above.

3.3 The NATIS model number allows for all the variants of the model to be registered and sold in South Africa.

4. Compulsory Vehicle Specifications require compliance to South African National Standards (SANS), which are based on UN ECE Regulations. Approval against UN ECE Regulations are fully accepted.

5. In limited instances a few EEC Directives and one or two others Standards (where stated), are acceptable as equivalent.(These requirements have to be confirmed with the NRCS).

6. NRCS carries out periodic confirmation inspections

Automotive Components (Approval)

Components (As per the Compulsory Specifications)

- Child Restraints VC 8033 (Homologation Certificate)
- Laminated & Toughened Glass VC 8051 (LOA Required/Type Approval docs required)
- Elastomeric Cups & Seals VC 8080 (LOA Required)
- Incandescent Lamp VC 8048 (LOA Required/Type Approval docs required)
- Replacement Headlights VC 8049 (LOA Required/Type Approval docs required)
- Replacement Secondary Lights VC 8050 (LOA Required/Type Approval docs required)
- Commercial Tyres VC 8059 (Import permit required/Type Approval docs required)
- Passenger Tyres VC 8056 (import permit required/Type Approval docs required)
- Motor Cycle Safety Helmets VC 8016 (Type Approval docs required)
- Brake Friction Materials VC 8053 (LOA Required/Type Approval docs required)
- Hydraulic Brake and Clutch Fluid VC 8013 (LOA Required)
- Tow bars and towing brackets VC8065 (LOA Required)

NRCS Test Facility Requirements

Test Facilities shall meet one of the following:

- Designated Technical Service as is defined within the 1958 UN ECE Agreement or,
- Accreditation to ISO/IEC 17025 by an ILAC or IAF affiliated organization; or
- Successful peer review/mutual acceptance against ISO/IEC 17025 that is acceptable to NRCS; or
- Provision of satisfactory evidence of compliance that is acceptable to NRCS

Only bullet points 1 and 2 is acceptable for E47 approval.

Currently no Approvals Authority has been granted approval to issue the South African E47.

CURRENT CHALLENGES

ONLINE TRADING OF REGULATED PRODUCTS

BALANCE BETWEEN SAFETY OF SIMILAR VEHICLE MODELS SUPPLIED IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

- Highest safety standards – developed countries
- Minimum national safety standards – developing countries

NEW PRODUCTS DEVELOPMENT VS REGULATION AND OUTDATED REGULATIONS

- Electrical and Autonomous vehicles – Infrastructure to support such vehicles
- Assisted parking systems
- Alternative fuel vehicles

NON-EXISTENCE/LIMITED AND OR OUTDATED TECHNICAL SERVICES

- Infrastructure to support testing against latest editions of UN Regulations
- Approval of Technical Services as per the requirements of the 1958 Agreement
- Fluctuating continuous high level of service supplied by Technical Services

CHALLENGES continue

NON AVAILABILITY OF ACCREDITED TECHNICAL FACILITIES

- Hampers the implementation of the Type Approval process – Issuing the E47 mark
- Comprehensive understanding of Stakeholders in the interpretation of the implementation of the full Type Approvals process that would/could result in issuing “E47”.
- Formulation of Technical Facilities in “Africa” and then to obtain an AFRICA position on decisions made at WP29.

IMPROVE SAFETY ON THE ROADS – SUPPORT THE DECADE OF ACTION FOR ROAD SAFETY – PROJECT SAFER VEHICLES 2020/2025

- Actively embark on achieving the goals of the UN and as per agreements reached between Special Envoy for Road Safety, Mr Jean Todt and OICA.
 - RSA/WP29 Stakeholders Interaction meeting hosted in RSA
 - Incorporate new technology (UI/DETA)
- Upgrade the current compulsory specifications (UN Regulations). Lengthy process

TURNAROUND TIMES FOR APPROVALS

- Streamline processes through electronic applications

RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT WITH STAKEHOLDERS

- Other government departments
- Industry and Associations e.g.. NCAP Africa

AREA OF IMPROVEMENT

ADMINISTRATION OF THE WP.29 1958 and 1998 AGREEMENTS

- Formally adopt all the identified UNECE Regulations – Process initiated but to be completed
- Implement the Type Approval process – Issuing the E47 mark
- Stakeholder engagements on the work covered
- Formulation of a “Africa” position on decisions made at WP29.

IMPROVE SAFETY ON THE ROADS – SUPPORT THE DECADE OF ACTION FOR ROAD SAFETY – PROJECT SAFER VEHICLES 2020/2025

- Project identified and launched in 2018 to upgrade areas of regulation
- Upgrade the current compulsory specifications (UN Regulations) to Incorporate improved safety vehicle systems.
- Incorporate new technology (UI/DETA)

RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT WITH STAKEHOLDERS

- Other government departments
- Industry Associations
- International Consumer Bodies
- Where possible lobby for the establishment of Technical facilities

TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE OF SOUTH AFRICA

Policy,
legislation
and
Regulation

Additional
mandates
given to the
NRCS

Legislative
Activities
(WP29(ECE
Regulations)
/ SANS
Standards

International
Accreditation,
against
ISO 17020
as an
Inspection

Compulsory
Specification
/ Technical
Regulation
development
Process

Approval
and Market
surveillance



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



transport
Department:
Transport
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



UNECE



sanas
South African National
Accreditation System

NRCS

NRCS



the dti

Department:
Trade and Industry
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NRCS

NRCS
national regulator for
compulsory specifications

**National
Regulator for
Compulsory
Specifications
mandated as
MIB
Inspectorate
by the National
Department of
Transport**

SABS
South African Bureau of Standards

NRCS



the dti

Department:
Trade and Industry
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

SARS
South African Revenue Service



**Technical
outcomes
that society
can trust, and
use in
decision
making**

NRCS

National
Regulator for
Compulsory
Specifications
/National
Department of
Transport

NRCS
national regulator for
compulsory specifications

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS - END

**Our esteemed gratitude to the Secretariat of WP29
for the opportunity to present the South African
National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications
position on the Implementation and OR challenges
experienced with the administration of the 1958
and 1998 UN ECE Agreements as well as our
Interpretation of such.**

**Thanking you
Dries van Tonder**