Norway supports the proposal to introduce a definition of historic vehicles to be entered in the Consolidated Resolution on the Construction of Vehicles. However, the Norwegian Public Roads Administration (NPRA) proposes to amend letter c.) as follows:

(c) the vehicle is in a historically correct condition (includes original condition and periodically correct modifications); and not used as a means of daily transport preserved and maintained in its original state and has not undergone substantial changes in the technical characteristics of its main components."

Justification

As currently formulated, any vehicle that has been modified or rebuilt will fall outside the definition of a 'historic vehicle.' We contend that it is overly restrictive to confine the term 'historic vehicle' solely to entirely original vehicles. There should be allowance for period-appropriate modifications. We believe that historic vehicles that are partially or fully disassembled and can be restored to an operational and historically correct condition should be considered historic vehicles.

Therefore, NPRA proposes that the definition in point c.) be amended as suggested, to encompass all aspects of our motoring heritage and not exclude vehicles that have been modified, whether for personalization or by the aftermarket industry, or for motorsport.

In the NPRAs view, our motoring heritage also includes the personalization and modification of vehicles that has taken place throughout the history of the motor vehicle. Iconic vehicles such as the Ford Escort Mk 1 and 2 modified for participation in rallies, the 1932 Ford Coupe from the movie American Graffiti, and the Shelby GT500 from Gone in 60 Seconds, are examples of how modified vehicles in different ways represent important cultural influences in our society. Vehicles modified during or after WWII to cover the requirements for personal and commercial transportation are also examples of modified vehicles that should be considered historic vehicles. Vehicles that have been altered to participate in motor racing also represent an important part of the motoring heritage. The motoring vehicle represents personal freedom and mobility. Modifying and personalization have been, and still are, an important aspect of motor vehicle history and therefore also our motoring heritage."