



Type Approval of Digital Tachographs

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Type Approval of Digital Tachographs

Commission Regulation (EC)3821/85, as amended by Council Regulation (EC) No 1360/2002

The EEC type approval for an item of recording equipment (or component) or a tachograph card is based on:

A **security** certification performed by an ITSEC authority, against a security target fully compliant with appendix 10 of Annex 1b Council Regulation (EC) No 1360/2002.

A **functional** certification performed by a member state authority certifying that the item fulfils the requirements of appendix 9, paragraphs 2 to 4 of Annex 1b Council Regulation (EC) No 1360/2002 with respect to the functions performed, measurement accuracy and environmental characteristics.

An **inter-operability** certification performed by the competent body certifying that the recording equipment (or tachograph card) is fully inter-operable with the necessary tachograph card. These requirements are shown at appendix 9, paragraphs 5 of Annex 1b Council Regulation (EC) No 1360/2002.

Security Checks

An ITSEC approved authority must carry out the checks on the security of the devices.

Functional Checks

The functional checks are the responsibility of the type approval authority. VCA is the UK's approval authority. Manufacturers are able to use their own laboratories for this work but the tests have to be witnessed by an engineer from VCA. Alternatively VCA may appoint an independent laboratory to carry out this work on VCA's behalf.

The functional testing mainly concern checks to ensure the device will continue to function properly in its environment, checks to see the device complies with the required file structure and protocols and meets the requirements for printouts etc.

Inter-operability Checks

The inter-operability checks will be carried out by JRC (ISPRA) in Italy. This body has been appointed by the Commission and will check the inter-operability of all equipment seeking approval to this new regulation, regardless of which Member State is to issue the type approval certificate.

The laboratory carrying out this work is not permitted to start the interoperability checks until the security and interoperability certificates have been issued.

There is an exceptional procedure concerning the issue of the first inter-operability certificates. This allows for a four-month window from the issue of the first approval for other manufacturers to submit devices for inter-operability checks and for laboratory responsible for the testing to consult with the manufacturers to resolve any inter-operability problems. Until the end of the



period of this exceptional approvals will be provisional. See Annex 1b, VIII, 6 for details.

Motion Sensors

Approval is granted separately to the recording equipment (tachograph head) and the cards. Motion sensors cannot be independently approved. They may only be approved as part of the approval for the recording equipment. This means that if a motion sensor can be used with more than one recording device it will have to appear in the approval documentation of each of those recording devices.

Final Approval

When the type approval authority is in possession of the security, functional and interoperability certificates for a device it may issue the type approval certificate.

Further Information

For more information on this subject or to enquire about our type approval services, please contact us by following this link.