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## CIRCULAR 0 – 2 – 12

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### SPECIALIST AND ENTHUSIAST VEHICLE SCHEME (SEVS) ELIGIBILITY

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Circular describes the requirements regarding the eligibility of motor vehicles for entry on the Register of Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicles (the Register) as set out in Regulation 24 of the Motor Vehicle Standards Regulations 1989 (the Regulations).
- 1.2 The intent of the SEVS is to make motor vehicles (both new and used) available in Australia which cater for specialist and enthusiast interests. These vehicles may otherwise not be viable because the high costs associated with full volume certification can only be spread over a small number of vehicles.
- 1.3 The SEVS is a process for determining vehicle make/model eligibility. Entry on the Register does not constitute automatic approval of the vehicle for supply to the Australian market.
- 1.4 Whilst this Circular applies to both new and used motor vehicles, only new vehicles meeting the requirements of this circular are eligible for certification under either the low volume arrangements in Circular 0-4-1, or the low world-wide production passenger car (MA category only) arrangements in Circular 0-2-13. However used vehicles meeting the requirements of circular 0-2-12 are subject to the Registered Automotive Workshops Scheme (RAWS) arrangements.
- 1.5 A vehicle is not eligible to be entered on the Register if :
- (a) It is in the TA, TB, TC or TD vehicle category; or
  - (b) It was manufactured before 1 January 1989.

#### 2. DEFINITIONS

##### 2.1 Definition of “Make”

2.1.1 Regulation 3 defines make of a road vehicle as the marque or name by which a range of vehicles is popularly known. Make would normally be expected to be identified as such in standard motor industry reference sources such as the “Glass’ Guide”. It may or may not be the name of the vehicle manufacturer and it is usual for a vehicle to be identified or badged as its vehicle make.

2.1.2 Often a vehicle design is marketed under different names (ie badge engineering). Badge engineered versions of any new vehicle supplied under a full volume approval in Australia will not be eligible under SEVS.

eg. Mazda 323 same make-model as Ford Laser  
Chevrolet Suburban same make-model as Holden Suburban.

2.1.3 Examples of different makes are:

Make:	Holden
Manufactured by:	Holden Ltd or Adam Opel
Make:	Ford

Manufactured by: KIA Motors or Ford Motor Company  
Make: Ferrari  
Manufactured by: Ferrari SpA.

## 2.2 Definition of “Model”

2.2.1 Regulation 3 defines model of a road vehicle as a class or family of road vehicles of the same make, and of the same general type or appearance that includes the road vehicle. Vehicles of the same model are usually internally identified as such by the manufacturer, although for many reasons they may be marketed and badged differently.

eg Toyota 4Runner is the same model as Toyota Surf  
Nissan Pathfinder is the same model as Nissan Terrano.

2.2.2 Often a vehicle design is marketed under different make-model names (ie badge engineering). Badge engineered versions of any vehicle supplied new under a full volume approval in Australia will be considered the same model as the full volume vehicle.

eg. Mazda 323 is the same make-model as Ford Laser  
Chevrolet Suburban is the same make-model as Holden Suburban.

2.2.3 All model eligibility determinations will be based on the vehicle in its originally designed and manufactured specification.

2.2.4 A two door version of a four door model supplied new under a full volume approval in Australia will be considered a different model.

2.2.5 The following factors will be taken into account when determining whether a vehicle is the same model as another vehicle:

- (a) Model code or series;
- (b) engine/transmission codes;
- (c) exterior body/cab dimensions;
- (d) interior body/cab dimensions; and
- (e) floorpan or wheelbase within 50mm, and track within 10mm (after allowing for differing wheel offset).

2.2.6 The following variations by themselves, **DO NOT** constitute a different model:

- (a) trim or optional specification variations;
- (b) body variants, such as Sedan, Hatchback, Station-Wagon or Single and Double-Cab, or with Sleeper-Cab, of the same basic model;
- (c) wheelbase or wheeltrack variations;
- (d) goods carrying bodies, plant and/or equipment added to a vehicle, usually a chassis-cab, that has minimal effect on Australian Design Rule (ADR) compliance;
- (e) variations in profile being a result of the addition, or modification of Air Dams, Skirts, Spoilers, Wheel-Arches and similar; or
- (f) different engines and/or transmissions, including petrol or diesel, manual or automatic, or 2WD, 4WD or AWD, turbo-charged, supercharged, variations of fuel injection technique (eg GDI) or traction control.

2.2.7 Notwithstanding the above variations, the following **WILL** normally be expected to constitute a different Model:

- (a) vehicles that differ significantly in body structure and/or profile;
- (b) vehicles with a differing number of axles;
- (c) vehicles of a different vehicle category; and
- (d) vehicles marketed as the same model name, although otherwise determined to be a different model, such as when an old model is superseded by a new model, but still retaining the same model name. (In this circumstance, a suitable model name qualifier must be used to differentiate the models).

## **2.3 Definition of Vehicle Category**

2.3.1 Any of the vehicle categories as defined in Vehicle Standard (ADR- Definitions and Vehicle Categories).

## **3.1 Definition of New Vehicle**

3.1.1 Section 5 of the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* interprets new vehicle as a locally made vehicle, or a new imported vehicle, that has been neither:

- (a) supplied to the market; nor
- (b) used in transport in Australia by its manufacturer or importer;  
and includes a locally made vehicle, or a new imported vehicle, that has been supplied to the market but not yet used in transport in Australia.

3.1.2 New imported vehicle means an imported vehicle that has not been used in transport outside Australia.

## **3.2 Definition of Used Vehicle**

3.2.1 Used vehicle is any vehicle not meeting the definition of a new vehicle according to paragraph 3.1.

#### 4. CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING A VEHICLE IS SPECIALIST AND ENTHUSIAST

- 4.1 In accordance with Regulation 24, for a vehicle to be eligible for entry on the Register it must:
- 4.1.1 be of a make of vehicle for which vehicles of the same vehicle category are not currently supplied to the market in full volume in Australia; or
- 4.1.2 if of a make of vehicle currently supplied to the market in full volume in Australia,
- 4.1.2.1 in the case of used vehicles, be a vehicle model for which vehicles were first supplied to a market (anywhere in the world) at least 18 months ago (unless the original vehicle manufacturer has advised the Administrator without prejudice that it does not plan to supply the vehicle model new under a full volume approval in Australia); and
- 4.1.2.2 in the case of new or used vehicles :
- 4.1.2.2.1 be intended for first supply to the market in Australia as a “campervan” under the provisions of Administrators Circular 0-4-12 and either, be a model that is not supplied in full volume in Australia, or a variant not supplied in Australia of a model that is supplied in full volume in Australia; or
- 4.1.2.2.2 for models that have been supplied in full volume to the market in Australia; have a build date of at least one year after the build date of the last vehicle supplied to the market in Australia in full volume (unless the full volume compliance plate approval holder(s) has advised the Administrator without prejudice that it agrees for the one year period to be waived); and
- 4.1.2.2.3 in the case of MD3, MD4, ME, NB, NC and all L category vehicles there are no further requirements to be met.
- 4.1.2.2.4 in the case of MA, MB, MC, MD1, MD2 & NA category vehicles;
- 4.1.2.2.4.1 either be a “single cab” (ie single row of seats) 4WD with an open work tray or
- 4.1.2.2.4.2 meet at least two out of the four following criteria:
- (a) Appearance – Significant difference in appearance to popular class of vehicle in that category;
- (b) Unusual Design Features – Significant difference in sub-assemblies to popular class of vehicle in that category;
- (c) Performance – Significant difference in level of performance to popular class of vehicle in that category;
- (d) Featured in specialist motoring magazines in “as manufactured” condition.

**Note:** Table 1 on page 7 contains a list what would be considered necessary to meet the above criteria and is provided for information and guidance only and should not be relied on as a definitive list for determining specialist and enthusiast vehicle criteria.

**5. APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

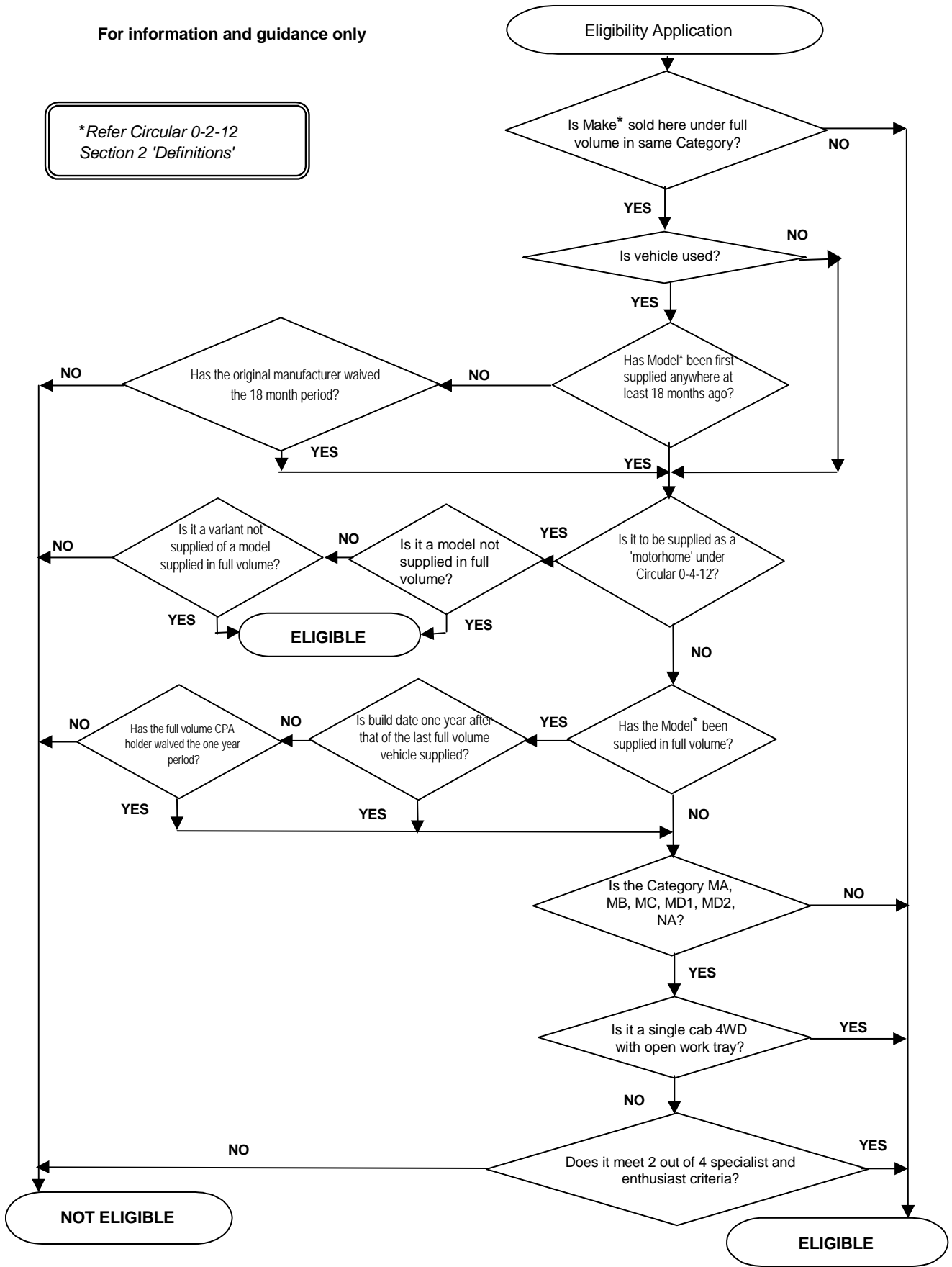
- 5.1** All applications for vehicles to be entered on the Register must be made on the form accessible from [www.infrastructure.gov.au](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au) ,and be forwarded to the Administrator of Vehicle Standards.
- 5.2** Prior to making an application, applicants are advised to check the Register and the list of vehicles already assessed as not-eligible based on the information provided. The Register and the list is accessible from [www.infrastructure.gov.au](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au). Applicant details will not be disclosed.

**6. ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES**

- 6.1** Assessment for entry on the Register will be carried out in accordance with Regulations 25 to 28 of the Act. Entry on the Register is a matter of public record.
- 6.2** Entry on the Register is applicable as at the date of entry, but does not provide a guarantee that the vehicle will remain on the Register for any set period.
- 6.3** The applicant may request in writing a review of an eligibility decision as set out in Regulations 29-38.

For information and guidance only

*\*Refer Circular 0-2-12  
Section 2 'Definitions'*



**TABLE 1 SPECIALIST AND ENTHUSIAST VEHICLE CRITERIA (as per Paragraph 4.1.2.2)**

<b>Category</b>	<i>Vehicle Category</i>	
	<b>MA, MB, MC, MD1 &amp; MD2 Passenger Vehicles and Light Buses</b>	<b>NA Light Goods Vehicles</b>
<b>Appearance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 seater</li> <li>• pillarless design on 4 door vehicle</li> <li>• different silhouette (eg roof height, length – features must be not easily removed)</li> <li>• gullwing or other unusual doors</li> <li>• convertible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• different silhouette (eg roof height, length – features must be not easily removed)</li> <li>• convertible</li> </ul>
<b>Unusual Design Features</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• suspension type</li> <li>• different engine type (not being just different fuel)</li> <li>• braking system type</li> <li>• advanced control features (eg. collision avoidance, superior handling)</li> <li>• number of Axles</li> </ul> <p>The following are not considered unusual design features: Turbocharging, supercharging, ABS, 4WD, 4 wheel steer, diesel or gas fuelled vehicles, variations of fuel injection technique (eg GDI), traction control.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suspension type</li> <li>• Different engine type (not being just different fuel)</li> <li>• Braking system type</li> <li>• Advanced control features (eg. collision avoidance, traction control, superior handling, 4 wheel steer)</li> <li>• Number of Axles</li> </ul> <p>The following are not considered unusual design features: turbocharging, supercharging, ABS, 4WD, diesel or gas fuelled vehicles, variations of fuel injection technique (eg GDI).</p>
<b>Performance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• power to weight greater 105 kw/tonne (&lt;9.5kg/kW) for MA, MB &amp; MC only</li> <li>• fuel consumption to be determined in accordance with ADR 81/00 and to be less than 4 litre/100km for MA (other categories to be decided on a case by case basis).</li> <li>• Extreme handling ability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• power to weight greater 105 kw/tonne (&lt;9.5kg/kW)</li> <li>• fuel consumption less than 4 litre/100km when tested in accordance with ADR 81/00</li> <li>• high carrying capacity to unladen mass</li> <li>• extreme handling ability</li> </ul>
<b>Specialist Publications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• featured, in the “as manufactured” condition in motoring publications for specialist and enthusiast vehicles.</li> <li>• be eligible for homologation to a limited production category, such as FIA Group A (vehicles eligible for production based categories such as Group N are not acceptable)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• featured, in the “as manufactured” condition in motoring publications for specialist and enthusiast vehicles</li> <li>• be eligible for homologation to a limited production category such as an applicable FIA Group (vehicles eligible for production based categories are not acceptable)</li> </ul>