**AUSTRALIAN MOTOR VEHICLE CERTIFICATION BOARD**

Comprising Commonwealth, State and Territory Authorities

# CIRCULAR NO. 38-1-7

# SUSPENSION TYPES

1. Suspension type is referred to in several of the forms used for application for Compliance Plate Approvals, Compliance Mark Approval and Low Volume Assessment in respect of ADR 38. Suspension type is the type grouping in the "ACVP" 'Guide to Heavy Vehicle Suspension Systems and Acceptable Axle Groups'. Changes from underslung to overslung springing can be ignored.
2. For your convenience the abovementioned book has been summarised and this summary can be found at Attachment 1. The summary is intended to cover the most common types of suspensions fitted to trailers. However, if the particular suspension type fitted is not covered then refer to the complete book which may be obtained from the Australian Government Printing Service's book shops.
3. Reference is also made to load sharing suspensions. A load sharing suspension is a suspension system that utilises pneumatic, hydraulic, mechanical or other means to effect substantially equal sharing by all the axles of an axle group of the total load carried by that group and has effective damping characteristics on all axles of the group.
4. Reference is also made to brake reactive suspension systems. A brake reactive suspension system is a load sharing suspension system in which there is transfer of vertical loading from one axle to another axle in the same axle group due to the application of the brakes

A summary of the Advisory Committee on Vehicle Performance's booklet, "A Guide to Heavy Vehicle Suspension Systems and Acceptable Axle Groups".

The suspension systems are listed by type number. The makes and models included in the 'Guide' are listed alongside each suspension system.

A 'X' will be entered in the appropriate column of 'Brake Reactive - Yes No' only when the AMVCB has been able to determine the characteristics of the suspension.









