



CIRCULAR No .3A-3-1

INTERPRETATIONS

Attached are interpretations issued by the Board in respect of Australian Design Rule No. 3A -Seat Anchorages for Motor Vehicles (February 1981).

They should be read in conjunction with Circular No.0-11-1.

AUSTRALIAN MOTOR VEHICLE CERTIFICATION BOARD

Interpretations

Australian Design Rule No.3A - Seat Anchorages for Motor Vehicles as endorsed by the Australian Transport Advisory Council February 1981.

Interpretation No. 1 (Clause 3A.3)

Question:

It is permissible for the seat travel stops to take part of the load when tested in accordance with Clause 3A.3?

Answer:

No.

Interpretation No. 2 {Clause 3A.2.3, 3A.2.3.1}

Question:

Does a rearward facing folding seat need to comply with paragraph 3A.2.3 and paragraph 3A.2.3.1 completely?

Answer:

Yes, in the case of paragraph 3A.2.3. In the case of paragraph 3A.2.3.1, if the seat in question does not provide access to other seats in the vehicle, it is not necessary for its release control to be accessible to an occupant of that seat or to any other vehicle occupant. However, it would be necessary for the control device to withstand loads without release.

Interpretation No. 3 (Clause 3A.2.3)

Question:

Are seats mounted onto hinged covers, e.g. engine covers, subject to the requirements of Clause 3A.2.3?

Answer:

Yes, but if the seat assembly can withstand the test loads without, tilting of the hinged cover and without any latches being latched, then the latches need not be self-locking. It should be noted that the intention of this Clause is to preclude the possibility of impact forces acting on unrestrained hinged or folding seats.



Interpretation No. 4 (Clause 3A.2.3)

Question:

If non self-locking auxiliary latches are provided, e.g. to pull the hinged cover down tightly over its gasket, how is the ADR 3A testing done?

Answer:

The auxiliary latches are to be unlatched so that only the self-locking device and hinges are taking the test loads.

Interpretation No. 5 (Clause 3A.2.1.3)

Question:

It is necessary to conduct the rearward moment test in Clause 3A.2.1.3 when seat assemblies such as rear seat backs are supported by a rigid vehicle body member?

Answer:

No, provided it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Board that supporting rigid body member was sufficiently strong to withstand the nominated load.

Interpretation No. 6 (Clause 3A.2.1.1.(a))

Question:

Where seat belt anchorage (s) are attached to the seat in what position must the seat be tested when simultaneously applying ADR 3A and AOR 58 loads.

Answer:

The seat is to be located in the full forward and upward design position.

Note: An additional test with seat belt anchorage loads applied is required with the seat in the rearmost position to demonstrate compliance with ADR 5B.

Interpretation No. 7 (Clause 3A.2.1.1.(b))

Question:

In Clause 3A.2.1.1(b), how is the distance from a child restraint anchorage located in the vehicle body structure to a horizontal plane tangential to the point on the top of the seat back longitudinally forward of the child restraint anchorage measured if the top of the seat is compressible, such as padded upholstery with no structural member in the immediate vicinity?

Answer:

The measurement may be established using the following procedure:

For each child restraint anchorage install an Upper Anchor Fitting specified in ADR 34A.

Using typical child restraint webbing and the Attaching Clip specified in ADR 34A apply to a horizontal load not greater than 3.4 kN to the child restraint anchorage in a forward longitudinal direction.

Measure the distance between the child restraint anchorage and the horizontal plane tangentially to the top of the displaced seat back longitudinally forward of the child restraint anchorage.