



CIRCULAR NO. 4B-3-1

INTERPRETATION

Attached are interpretations issued by the Board in respect of Australian Design Rule No. 4B - Seat Belts (February 1975). They should be read in conjunction with Circular No. 0-11-1.

This Circular supersedes pages 5 and 6 of circular No. 47 in the first series of board Circulars.

AUSTRALIAN MOTOR VEHICLE CERTIFICATION BOARD

INTERPRETATIONS

Australian Design Rule No. 4B - Seat Belts

as endorsed by the Australian Transport Advisory Council - July 1974.

Interpretation No. 1 (Clause 4.4.5)

Question: In the case of a seat cushion designed to fold or hinge, must the design feature specified in Clause 4.4.5 function so as to meet automatically the requirements when the seat is restored to its normal position?

Answer: The requirements of Clause 4.4.5 must be met while the seat is in its normal position. The operation of re-establishing the seat after folding may include a manual operation to re-establish part of the belt assembly to meet the requirements of Clause 4.4.5.

Interpretation No. 2 (Clause 4.4.6)

Question: Does the vehicle floor referred to in Clause 4.4.6 include parts of the floor not accessible to the feet of the vehicle occupants?

Answer: No. Parts of the vehicle floor structure which are inaccessible to the occupant's feet during travel or during entry and exit are not included.

Interpretation No. 3 (Clause 4.2.6)

Question: For the purposes of Clause 4.2.6, is a printed linen label acceptable as a permanent marking?

Answer: Yes, provided that the marking on the label is resistant to fading and is securely attached.



Interpretation No.4 (Clause 4.2.6)

Question: How must the label be attached? Is it sufficient to attach one end of the label by the stitch pattern used at an end fitting of the belt?

Answer: Yes, provided that the location of the label protects it from handling or abrasion during wearing, e.g. adjacent to an anchor fitting at upper anchorage or inner floor anchorage. If the label is in a position subject to handling or wear and tear it should be stitched down all around.

Interpretation No. 5 (Clause 4.5.1 (i))

Question: Clause 4.5.1(i) refers to ‘the working stroke of the two strokes of each cycle’. What is meant by the ‘working stroke’?

Answer: The ‘working stroke’ is that part of the stroke of the strap during which the load of at least 13N is applied. There are two strokes to each cycle, and therefore two working strokes to each cycle. The total movement during one stroke may exceed 200mm, but the ‘working stroke’ is limited to between 150 and 200mm.

Interpretation No. 6 (Clause 4.1.6)

Question: Clause 4.1.6 in defining ‘Correctly Fitted’ refers to the belt being ‘adjusted around the occupant of the seating position to eliminate slack’. In the case of a belt fitted with a retractor is the removal of slack achieved by the retractor considered as sufficient to achieve correct fitting, even though some parts of the belt assembly may not be in contact with the occupant or dummy.

Answer: A retractor belt is regarded as correctly fitted when the retraction force has removed slack from the belt straps and both the lap strap and the torso strap have at least one point of contact with the dummy.