

Heavy Vehicle Brakes Rule and its implementation



Clarification on Repair Vs. Modification for Suppliers, Service Providers, Wholesalers, and Workshops

There has been confusion about the HVBR requirements for repair in section 9.2 – replacement components for vehicle repair.

It is important to remember that section 9.2 – Replacement Components applies to all replacement brake components, not just brake linings.

Concern has been expressed specifically about friction materials but it is important to remember this section applies to *all replacement brake components, not just brake linings*.

The requirements in the Rule relating to repair came into force at the same time as the Rule, on 1 March 2007. The Rule replaces previous HV brake regulations which were covered in the following pieces of legislation and they have been revoked where brakes are concerned:

- Goods service regulations 1936
- Heavy motor vehicle regulations 1974
- Traffic regulations 1976
- PSV regulations
- Policy 3

The Rule requires that:

- all vehicles over 3500kg must repaired to the requirements of the Rule
- all brakes on an axle must be relined together
- replacement components such as brake valves, chambers and brake linings / disc pads must have equivalent performance characteristics to the OE or originally certified component
- brake materials that have ECE Regulation 90 approval, are deemed to meet the Rule.

Equivalent performance

All replacement brake parts fitted to a heavy vehicle must have equivalent performance characteristics the same as the original factory part or where the vehicle has been brake coded, the originally certified component.

Modifications require certification

Deviation from these requirements would be considered a modification and requires certification by a HV Specialist Certifier with the HVEK category to Schedule 5 of the Rule. During a repair, if a replacement component is fitted that changes the performance of a vehicle this means that the vehicle must be referred for HVEK certification and may need to be complied in full with Schedule 5 of the Rule.

Evidence required

Proof of equivalence must be available for all heavy vehicle brake repair or replacement components marketed in New Zealand. All suppliers of brake components must be able to provide, on request, evidence that the parts supplied by them meet the OE manufacturer's standards, have test results to prove equivalent performance or have approval to be fitted from the vehicle or brake system manufacturer. This evidence must be sourced from the component manufacturer, brake system manufacturer or vehicle manufacturer.

It is the brake component or OE manufacturer's responsibility to provide the proof of equivalence, the resellers responsibility to ensure all the brake components that he or she sells has that proof of equivalence available and the responsibility of the repairer to ensure all brake components that he or she fits has proof of equivalence available.

These requirements are not new, the requirement to not alter the performance of a brake system or component has always been in place. If you ever changed the performance of a heavy vehicle's brakes or brake system from its original state in the past, it should have been certified by a HV Specialist Certifier of the appropriate category.

Important information for saving time at CoF inspections

The NZTA recommends that engineered tie-down plates are fitted to vehicles for chassis load simulation for a CoF. Please recommend this to your customers as it will save them time during CoF inspections.

Look out for upcoming fact sheets, which will detail:

- >> Transport service licence labels
- >> CoF codes
- >> Offsite locations
- >> Test weights
- >> A new rollout map

Missed something? The September fact sheet covered:

- >> Chassis load simulation
- >> Engineered tie-down points
- >> Tie-down locations
- >> How to declutter a chassis

Previous factsheets are available on
www.landtransport.govt.nz/commercial/hvbr

To find out more...

For further information on the Heavy Vehicle Brakes Rule, visit
www.landtransport.govt.nz/commercial/hvbr
email: HVBR@nzta.govt.nz

Or visit your testing station web sites
www.vtnz.co.nz - www.aa.co.nz - www.vinz.co.nz

Or contact your representative
Bus and Coach Association (BCA)
Phone: 04 499 7334 - email: info@busandcoach.co.nz

Road Transport Forum (RTF)
Phone: 04 472 3877 - email: forum@rtfnz.co.nz