



Vehicle & Operator Services Agency

From: Information Access
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Our ref: **F0000987**

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Date: 5 November 2007

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

I refer to your e-mail of 8 October 2007 and the subsequent acknowledgement of 9 October 2007 concerning your request for information.

In your e-mail you asked the following:

1. What does HGV trailers stand for? Are those only trailers with more than 3.5tons? Are there articulated lorries included?
2. Where are the tractors included?
3. Are HGVs all motor vehicles over 3.5 tons? Or what does HGV stands for?
4. Where are taxis and ambulances included? If in Class 3&4, do they belong to the group passenger vehicles up to 12 seats?
5. Can you send me the number of cars, vans, passenger vehicles up to 12 seats tested in 2006 splitted by the vehicle type?
-How many of those failed at the PTI? (fail rate for each type: e.g. cars 23%; vans 12%, pv 15%)
-How were the failures by defect category as a percentage of vehicles tested at MOT stations? (e.g. 9% of all cars tested had a defective brake)
6. Did I understand it right, that PSV stands for motor vehicles with more than 12 seats and have to be used for service? What is with those vehicles which have less than 12 seats but are also used for service (like taxis)? Are those checked by VOSA or by private garages?

In response to your questions:

1. HGV trailers includes all those trailers that are Plated and Tested including articulated semitrailers and drawbar trailers. The vast majority are over 3.5 tonnes GVW but there are a few trailers over 1020 kg unladen but not over 3500kg GVW with power operated brakes (rather than overrun brakes which is normal for this weight of trailer) included.
2. Articulated tractor units are included within HGV Motor Vehicles. Other tractors (eg agricultural or motor tractors that don't carry a load or semitrailer themselves) aren't tested at all.

3. HGVs are Heavy Goods Vehicles which are either motor vehicles or trailers. The term HGV is not legally defined; although most subject vehicles including trailers are over 3500 kg GVW there are some mini-articulated tractors and trailers and those power braked trailers identified at 1) above which are also subject to Goods Vehicle Plating and Testing included in the figures.
4. Taxis and ambulances are 'Class IV' vehicles and therefore belong to this group.
5. A table is attached at Annex 1 giving MOT failure analysis by test class group for the period January 2006 to December 2006.
6. A detailed explanation and general information regarding Public Service Vehicles is available via VOSA's website: www.vosa.gov.uk, under HGV & PSV Operators > HGV/PSV Regulations > HGV/PSV Policy. Answers to frequently asked questions regarding PSV's may be found under Guidance and PSV Operator Licensing > PSV Operator Licensing FAQs.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us, quoting reference **F0000987**.

If you are unhappy with the information supplied, you may ask for an internal review. To request an internal review, please write to:

VOSA Corporate Office,
Berkeley House,
Croydon Street,
Bristol,
BS5 0DA

or email vosa.corporateoffice@vosa.gsi.gov.uk

giving the reasons for your dissatisfaction. It will help us if you quote the reference number for your case.

If you do not agree with the outcome of the internal review, you may lodge an appeal with the Information Commissioner (www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk). The Information Commissioner is an independent official appointed by the Crown to oversee the Data Protection Act 1998, the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

The Information Commissioner can consider complaints about any aspect of the way in which requests for information have been handled. Please note: the Information Commissioner would be unlikely to consider your complaint if you have not first requested an internal review.

You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

VOSA Information Access