

## **Periodic roadworthiness test assessment criteria for vehicles**

### **Regulation background and legal basis**

On 13 June 2022, the Transport and Communications Agency, acting on the basis of Sections 152, 154 and 160 of the Vehicles Act (82/2021), issued the Regulation on Periodic roadworthiness test assessment criteria for vehicles (TRAFICOM/423528/03.04.03.00/2020), which entered into force on 1 November 2022.

The Regulation repealed the previous Regulation on the Periodic roadworthiness test assessment criteria for vehicles of 13 June 2022 (TRAFICOM/423528/03.04.03.00/2020). The Regulation lays down, inter alia, further provisions on the inspection items, inspection procedures and the assessment of faults and defects under the so-called Vehicle Inspection Directive<sup>1</sup> and the Vienna Vehicle Inspection Agreement<sup>2</sup>, as well as additional inspection items.

### **Objective of the regulation**

Government has issued to Parliament a Bill amending the Act on Transport Services and on other related Acts (HE 15/2026 vp). The proposal amends the provisions on taxi regulation and the Bill contains amendments to the provisions of the Vehicles Act concerning taxis.

According to the proposed amendments to the Vehicle Act, a vehicle used in taxi services must be equipped with a taximeter that meets the requirements of the Measurement Instruments Act. In addition, for a vehicle used in taxi services, it is proposed that the Vehicle Act stipulate provisions on special taxi licence plates. Furthermore, it is proposed that the Vehicle Act be amended to require that the conditions for using a taxi licence plate be checked during the vehicle's periodic inspection.

The mandatory use of a taximeter and the verification of the conditions for using a taxi licence plate during inspection should also be taken into account in the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency's (Traficom) regulation on the assessment criteria for periodic vehicle inspections.

---

<sup>1</sup> Directive 2014/45/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on periodic roadworthiness tests for motor vehicles and their trailers and repealing Directive 2009/40/EC.

<sup>2</sup> Agreement concerning the adoption of uniform conditions for periodic technical inspections of wheeled vehicles and the reciprocal recognition of such inspections (Sops 35/2001).

Traficom has initiated a regulatory project in which the regulation on assessment criteria for periodic vehicle inspections will be amended to include the necessary changes related to taxi regulation.

In addition, the regulation will be updated to take into account the entry into force of the Euro 7 emission requirements and to clarify inconsistencies in the assessment of tyre and windscreen defects.

## **Drafting of the regulation**

The regulation was drafted by the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency. A notification of the start of the project to draft the regulation was posted on the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency's website and also sent by email to subscribers to the mailing list for the drafting of new road transport regulations.

Written opinions on the draft regulation are requested during the period between 4 March 2026 and 15 April 2026, during which anyone interested may submit their opinions on the draft.

The request for opinions will be published on the [lausuntopalvelu.fi](https://lausuntopalvelu.fi) website. In addition, the invitation for opinions will be sent by email to those on the mailing list for the drafting of road transport regulations. Stakeholders and citizens will also have the opportunity to comment on the project as the drafting progresses.

The finalised Regulation will be published in Finlex and on the website of the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency. Notification of the issuance of the regulation will be posted on the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency's website and also sent by email to subscribers to the mailing list for the drafting of new road transport regulations.

The Regulation is notified in accordance with the procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical regulations (Directive (EU) 2015/1535 of the European Parliament and of the Council). The notification number is 202X/XXX/FI. The waiting period provided for in the Directive ends/ended on xx.xx.2026.

## **Feedback**

- To be supplemented after the consultation procedure

## **Amendments and assessment of the effects of the Regulation**

The amendments to the regulation on Periodic roadworthiness test assessment criteria for vehicles are intended to clarify the assessment of new requirements related to taxis, thereby harmonising the application practice.

## Detailed rationale

The third paragraph of section 3.4.2 of the regulation would be amended to take into account emission requirements newer than Euro 6/IV. The amendment is necessary to address vehicles conforming to the new Euro 7 emission standard. Exhaust emissions from vehicles with diesel engines meeting the Euro 7 standard would be tested in the same manner as vehicles meeting Euro 6/IV requirements whose date of first registration is 1 September 2016 or later. In the table in section 3.4.2.2 concerning the assessment of exhaust emissions from diesel vehicles, the footnote explanations of the EURO emission requirements will be removed, as they are already described in the footnotes of section 3.4.2 of the regulation.

In Annex 1, section A2 “Registration Marks,” the conditions for authorised use would be added for inspection. Under “Defects and Deficiencies,” a defect “Conditions for use of taxi licence plates not met” would be added, and the corresponding measure would be suspension of the inspection in accordance with the proposed amendment to the Vehicle Act. This would mean that the vehicle has taxi licence plates, but the conditions for its authorised use are not met. The conditions for taxi licence plates would be checked, in accordance with the transitional provision, from 1 July 2027 onwards.

In the Annex, under section C14.1 “Taximeter,” the defect “Mandatory taximeter missing” would be added. In addition, the defect “Non-approved type” would be replaced with “Non-compliant,” meaning a taximeter that does not comply with the requirements of the Measurement Instruments Act. The assessment of the defects mentioned above would result in a fail. Any text in parentheses following the word “Taximeter” in the inspection item (if installed) would be removed.

In the Annex section D6 (tyres), in addition to a fail due to tyre cord damage or obvious risk of failure, a secondary assessment of a driving prohibition would be applied also to tyres other than the first axle tyres of heavy vehicles, where cord damage or obvious risk of failure would otherwise only be assessed as a driving prohibition. The assessment change would apply to all tyres of the vehicle, regardless of whether it is a light or heavy vehicle, because sudden failure of any tyre other than the first axle of a heavy vehicle can also lead to loss of control of the vehicle.

In the Annex section E4 (windscreen), the primary assessment of films, coatings, stickers, or objects attached to the windscreen, as well as excessive tinting (light transmittance below 70 %), would be changed from a repair recommendation to a fail. This would align the assessment with the current evaluation of films on front side windows in section E6 (other windows). As a secondary assessment, a repair recommendation would apply.

## **Regulation timetable/entry into force**

The regulation is intended to enter into force simultaneously with the amendments to taxi regulations on 1 February 2027. For the inspection item concerning registration plates, the inspection of taxi licence plates includes a transitional provision according to which the correctness of the plate on vehicles registered as taxis and linked to a transport licence will be checked from 1 July 2027 onwards. The requirement to use a taxi licence plate must be fulfilled by 30 June 2027 under the transitional provisions of the sections on taxi licence plates in the Act amending the Vehicle Act (XX/2026). Accordingly, the taxi licence plate and the conditions for its use will be inspected from 1 July 2027 pursuant to section 153a of the Vehicle Act (82/2021).