

Partial amendments of “Public Notice that Prescribes Details of
Safety Regulations for Road Transport Vehicle”

July 2017
Road Transport Bureau, MLIT

1. Background to the Amendments

In September 2015, Violations by the manufacturer using defeat devices that activates the emission control system during the certification test, but does not activate it during real driving by the manufacturer was discovered in the United States.

After that, Japan has immediately prohibited the use of defeat devices, but it is necessary to clarify application of the regulation by showing specific examples of defeat devices.

2 . Outline of the Amendment

(1) Providing the specific example of illegal engine control to be prohibited (Public Notice that Prescribes Details of Safety Regulations for Road Transport Vehicle, Article No.41)

【Scope】

New model vehicles (excepting motorcycle and special vehicle (such as construction machine))

【Outline of the Amendment】

The following control is provided as example of illegal control to be prohibited.

- The control which detects whether the vehicle is under the certification test or not based on the peculiar on-test event (steering wheel option, movement of the vehicle, driving pattern etc.) and stops or reduces the function of the emission control devices.
- The control which activates the emission control devices at specific latitude and longitude (Technical service etc.), and stops or reduces the devices at other places.
- The control which activates the emission control devices for a certain time related to the emission test, and stops or reduces the function of devices after the certain time.

(2)The other necessary amendment (Public Notice that Prescribes Details of Safety Regulations for Road Transport Vehicle, No.41, No.119, No.197)

【Scope】

All Vehicles produced after enforcement day

【Outline of the Amendment】

Clarify that the exhaust pipe has to be piped so that there is little risk to injure passengers according to the exhaust gas entering the passenger compartment

3 . Schedule

Scheduled for announcement and enforcement in late September 2017.