

## **Review of the legal EU framework on masses and dimension**

The Commission proposed in 2013 for amendments to Directive 96/53/EC laying down for certain road vehicles circulating within the Community the maximum authorised dimensions in national and international traffic and the maximum authorised weights in international traffic.

One of the aims of the proposal is to allow longer trucks provided that their aerodynamic/fuel consumption performances as well as their safety are improved. It is in particular proposed to foster aerodynamic flaps at the rear of trailers/trucks as well as an enhanced protection of pedestrians/cyclists.

An agreement was found by the legislator on 3 March 2015 and the text (Directive (EU) 2015/719) was just published on 6 May 2015 in the official Journal of the EU:

[http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1430902798142&uri=OJ:JOL\\_2015\\_115\\_R\\_0001](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1430902798142&uri=OJ:JOL_2015_115_R_0001)

This proposal has a close link with our type-approval legislation. In order to fully benefit from the expected results (fuel economy, better vehicle safety) from the revision of Directive 96/53/EC, it will be necessary to amend the type-approval legislation (e.g Regulation 58, Regulation 48, etc, EU legislation on the approval of vehicles with regard to their masses and dimensions, etc).

The outcome of the discussion on 96/53/EC on vehicle safety was anticipated and the issues linked to the safety of trucks is to the greatest extent covered by the study on the revision of the Regulation (EC) 661/2009 on vehicle general safety (GSR). Therefore the calendar for the revision of GSR should also be followed to implement 96/53/EC for what concerns type-approval and safety.

COM is required by the revision of Directive 96/53/EC to propose an amendment to the type-approval legislation within 2 years (2016). The Commission plans to launch the work on the review of the EU type-approval legislation by summer 2015 and will keep GRSG informed about the progress of this file.

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