

**Proposal concerning the Rear Seat Safety Belts of
Category N Vehicles (Regulations No.14, No.16)**

Transmitted by the Expert from Japan

Background

The current Regulations No.14 and No.16 exempt category N vehicles from the requirement to install safety belts in the rear seats. Japan would like to propose amendment to this exemption so that the said installation of safety belts will be a mandatory requirement.

Proposal

Amend Regulation No.14 as follows:

Para. 5.3.5 be deleted.

Para. 5.3.6 be deleted.

Annex 6 be amended (partly deleted and amended).

Annex 6

VEHICLE CATEGORY	FORWARD FACING SEATING POSITIONS				REAR FACING
	OUTBOARD		CENTRE		
	FRONT	OTHER	FRONT	OTHER	
M1	3	3 or 2 **	3 or 2 *	2	2
M2 < 3.5T	3	3	3	3	2
M3 & M2 > 3.5T	3 ##	3 or 2 +	3 or 2 +	3 or 2 +	2
N1, N2 & N3	3	2 or 0 #	3 or 2 *	2 or 0 #	2

Meaning of Symbol

#: Refers to paras. 5.3.5 and 5.3.6 (2 anchorages required for each exposed seating position)

Amend Regulation No.16 as follows:

Para. 8.1.8 be deleted.

Para. 8.1.9 be deleted.

Para. 8.1.9.1 be deleted.

Para. 8.1.9.2 be deleted.

Para. 8.1.9.3 be deleted.

Annex 16 be amended (partly deleted and amended).

Annex 16
MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR SAFETY-BELTS AND RETRACTORS

VEHICLE CATEGORY	FORWARD FACING SEATING POSITIONS	
	OUTBOARD SEATING POSITIONS	
	FRONT	OTHER THAN FRONT
M1	Ar4m	Ar4m
M2 ≤ 3.5 t	Ar4m, Ar4Nm	Ar4m, Ar4Nm
M2 > 3.5 t	Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm, or Ar4m or Ar4Nm ##	Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm, or Ar4m or Ar4Nm ##
M3	See para. 8.1.9. for conditions when a lap belt is permitted	See para. 8.1.9. for conditions when a lap belt is permitted
N1	Ar4m, Ar4Nm	B, Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm or none #
		Para. 8.1.7. and 8.1.8. lap belt required in exposed seating positions.
N2	B, Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm or A, Ar4m, Ar4Nm *	B, Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm or none #
N3	Para. 8.1.6. lap belt permitted if the windscreen is outside the reference zone and for the driver's seat.	Para. 8.1.7. and 8.1.8. lap belt required in exposed seating positions.

VEHICLE CATEGORY	FORWARD FACING SEATING POSITIONS		REAR FACING SEATING POSITIONS
	CENTRE SEATING POSITION		
	FRONT	OTHER THAN FRONT	
M1	Ar4m	Ar4m	B, Br3, Br4m
M2 ≤ 3.5 t	Ar4m, Ar4Nm	Ar4m, Ar4Nm	Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm
M2 > 3.5 t	Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm or Ar4m or Ar4Nm ##	Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm or Ar4m or Ar4Nm ##	Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm
M3	See para. 8.1.9. for conditions when a lap belt is permitted	See para. 8.1.9. for conditions when a lap belt is permitted	
N1	B, Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm or Br4Nm, Ar4Nm *	B, Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm or none #	None B, Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm
	Para. 8.1.6. lap belt permitted if the windscreen is not in the reference zone.	Para. 8.1.7. and 8.1.8. lap belt required in exposed seating positions.	
N2	B, Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm, or A, Ar4m, Ar4Nm *	B, Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm or none #	None B, Br3, Br4m, Br4Nm
N3	Para. 8.1.6. lap belt permitted if the windscreen is not in the reference zone.	Para. 8.1.7. and 8.1.8. lap belt required in exposed seating positions.	

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~~#: Refers to paras. 8.1.8 and 8.1.9 of this annex*~~

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Justification

Since there is no reason to assume that collision impacts are moderated to a greater extent in goods vehicles than in passenger vehicles, safety belts should be equally necessary for these two groups of vehicles. While the current Regulations No.14 and No.16 exempt category N vehicles, for example double-cab trucks (Figure 1), from rear seat safety belt requirement, Japan believes that category N vehicles should be equipped with safety belts in the rear seat.



Figure 1

If rear seat safety belt requirement is introduced, Regulations No.14 and No.16 will become equivalent to Japan's regulation (Safety Regulation Art. 22-3) and to the U.S. regulation (FMVSS 208).

In the case where the rear seats of a goods vehicle are of a folding type, belt anchorages should not be required as it is more appropriate to believe that folding seats are used less frequently. Such exemption of belt anchorages will be equivalent to the ECE Regulations (Regulations No.14, para. 5.3.8 and No.16, para. 8.1.1).
