



Construction Plant-hire Association
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Dear Member,

European Directive 2007/38/EC - Fitting of blind spot mirrors on mobile cranes

As you may recall the above Directive came into force on the 1st April 2009, whereby all goods vehicles registered between 2000 and 2006 must have blind spot mirrors retro-fitted.

The CPA spoke to VOSA earlier this year regarding the Directive, where they confirmed that the retro-fitting of mirrors was not required on mobile cranes, as they were exempt. However, a few weeks ago, the CPA was contacted by another individual at VOSA, who gave conflicting information; this resulted in the CPA contacting the Department of Transport (DfT) seeking a definitive response.

Brian Greenway at the DfT sent an e-mail on Wednesday stating the following:

For clarity 'Mobile cranes' means a special purpose vehicle of category N3, not fitted for the carriage of goods, provided with a crane whose lifting moment is equal to or higher than 400kNm. This definition means that they are outside of the scope of the Directive.

However, our advice has always been that, where it is possible, we would advise operators to update the mirrors and, as most mobile cranes are left hand drive this could make the driving experience safer, especially on dual carriageways.

The DfT have stated that an additional mirror / Fresnel lens is NOT a legal requirement; however, both the CPA and DfT recommend that the fitting of a mirror is given due consideration for all mobile cranes registered between 2000 and 2006.

We have been informed that all new machines will be fitted with these mirrors.

Please retain this note as proof that mobile cranes are not legally required to retro-fit mirrors onto mobile cranes.

If any Member would like any further advice or assistance on this subject, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

DAVID SMITH
Legal Manager

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