

Brakes

Legislation

EC Directive 71/320/EEC

UN Regulation: R13

Objective

That the trailers braking system meets minimum braking requirements

Requirement

If a category O1 or O2 trailer is fitted with inertia (over run) braking systems the following is required to show compliance with braking requirements:

- Technical reports for the overrun device and the brakes (appendix 2 and 3 of Annex VIII of 71/320/EEC). *The manufacture of the braked axles and over run device must supply you with this.*
- Check compatibility between overrun device and brake (appendix 4 of Annex VIII of 71/320/EEC). *This can also be supplied from the manufacturer of the braked axles and over run device. It provides evidence that the overrun device and brakes are compatible for the mass of the trailer*
- Braking systems shall activate if the coupling separates when in motion. For trailers less than 1.5 tons a breakaway cable which gives residual steering action on the trailer in the event of separation shall meet the above requirement
- Parking brake test on an 18 degree gradient
- Check to see if reverse is capable with towing vehicle
- Visual assessment of the sliding members of the control device to ensure it is long enough to enable the brake to be fully applied, even when the trailer is coupled. The sliding members shall be protected by a bellows or some equivalent device.

Please note that the above is a summarised version for information purposes only showing main requirements for inertia braking systems. Alternative braking systems and requirements can also be considered (see legislation above)