

Roadside inspection guidelines for heavy vehicles

(do your own walk-around before you hit the road and save time, money and lives)



Vehicle inspection guidelines for the New Zealand Police and Land Transport New Zealand (Land Transport NZ) at roadside or weighbridge inspections will mean consistency across the country.

If you are a driver or an operator, you can do the walk-around inspection yourself and have the defects fixed BEFORE you hit the road.

A 10 minute walk-around now could potentially save you time and money later, and could even save your life.

So, if a defect is found by the Police or Land Transport NZ, it shouldn't come as a surprise to you.

The diagrams in this pamphlet outline what the walk-around inspections will cover.

Keeping your vehicles roadworthy is a safety issue and a legal requirement – it's not optional.

YOU are responsible – both driver and operator – for ensuring your vehicle complies with all regulations and safety standards.

How defects are categorised

Defects are categorised in the guidelines as **dangerous**, **serious**, or **moderate**, depending on their safety risk. The consequences vary according to the risk to safety that any particular defect may cause.

The consequences

If a defect is found by the Police or Land Transport NZ, the consequences range from:

- an instruction to repair the vehicle
- being parked up
- being issued with a non-operation order (red or green)
- and/or being given an offence notice.

The Land Transport NZ website has a full list of the defects in each category and what the consequences may be if a defect is found.

www.landtransport.govt.nz/vehicle-safety/defects/index.html

Note

The guidelines are a summary of some legal requirements only and should not be the only vehicle safety information upon which you rely.

Visual walk-around inspection (truck and trailer)

5. Sun visor
Horn
Speedometer
Steering wheel
Air leaks
Service brake applied

2. Trade name and tare RHS
Cab corrosion
Tyres and wheels
Air tanks and leaks
Fuel tanks
Exhaust
Suspension
Chassis
Driveline
Mudguards
Turntable mounts
Fifth wheel mounts
Load anchorage

3. Drawbeam
Drawbar
Certification
Turntable
Tail lights
Reflectors
Indicators
Air hoses

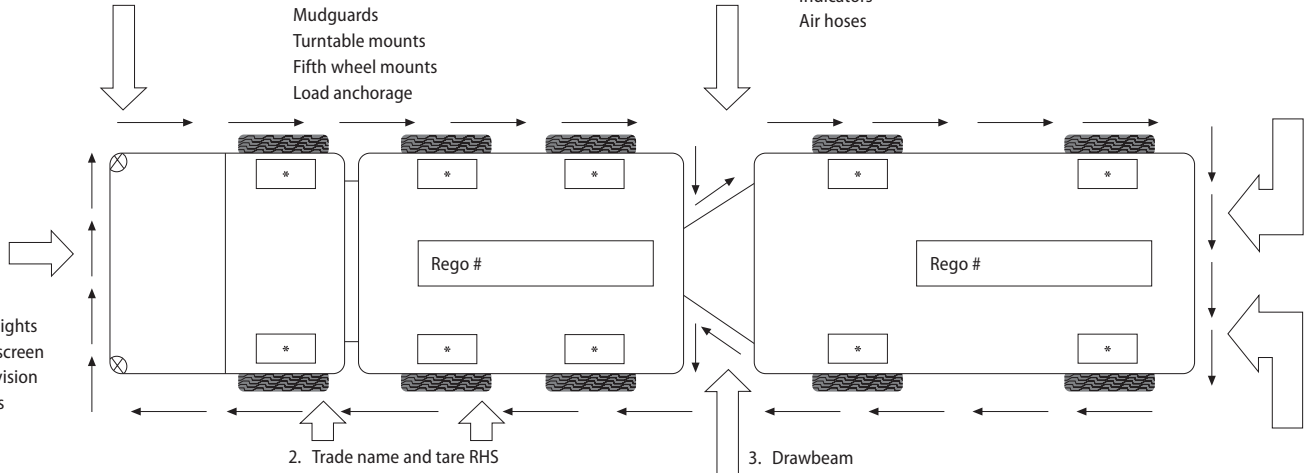
4. Marker lights
Tail lights
Stop lights
Reflectors
Indicators

1. Headlights
Windscreen
Rear vision
Labels

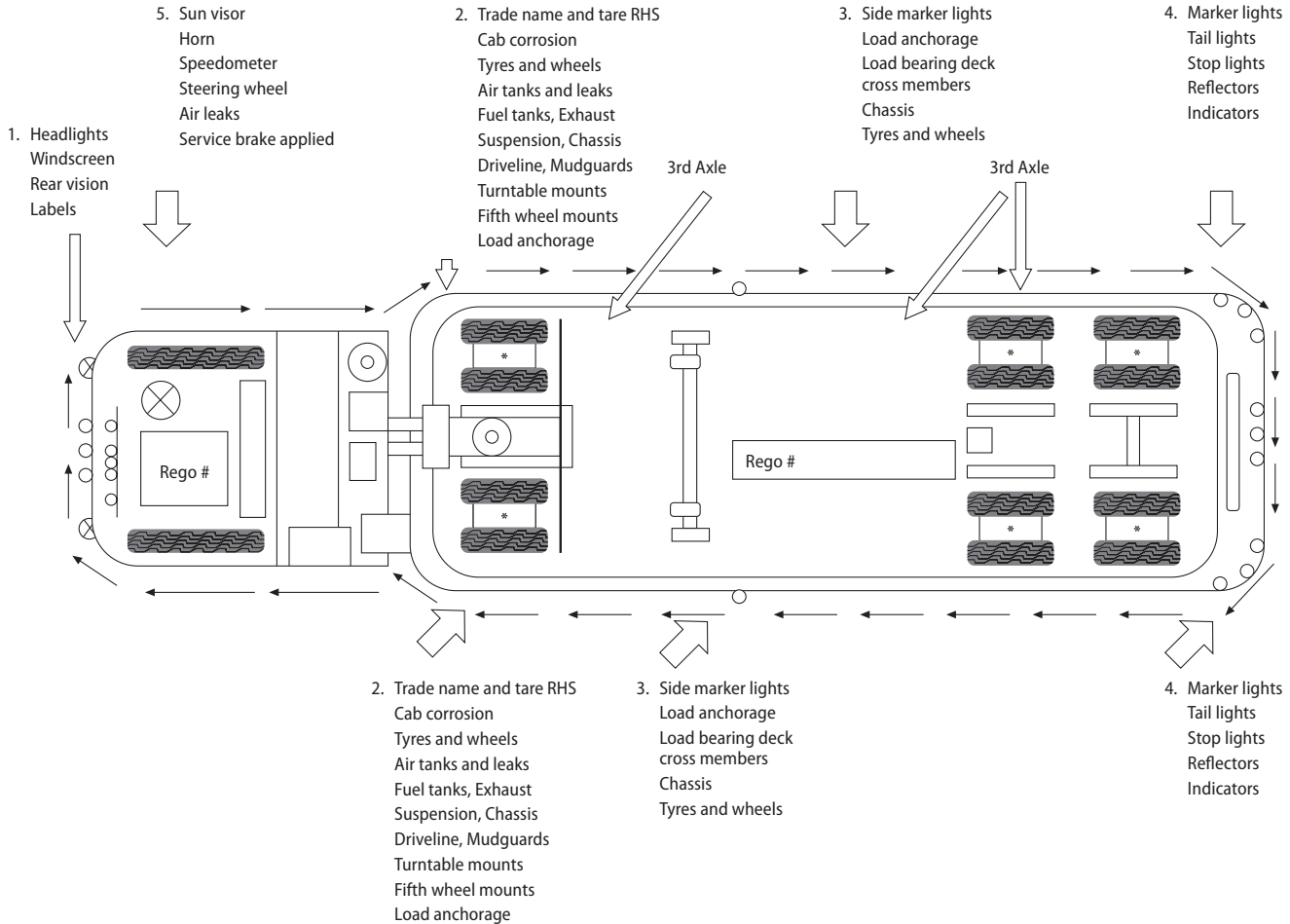
2. Trade name and tare RHS
Cab corrosion
Tyres and wheels
Air tanks and leaks
Fuel tanks
Exhaust
Suspension
Chassis
Driveline
Mudguards
Turntable mounts
Fifth wheel mounts
Load anchorage

3. Drawbeam
Drawbar
Certification
Turntable
Tail lights
Reflectors
Indicators
Air hoses

4. Marker lights
Tail lights
Stop lights
Reflectors
Indicators



Visual walk-around inspection (tractor and trailer)



1. Headlights
Windscreen
Rear vision
Labels

5. Sun visor
Horn
Speedometer
Steering wheel
Air leaks
Service brake applied

2. Trade name and tare RHS
Cab corrosion
Tyres and wheels
Air tanks and leaks
Fuel tanks, Exhaust
Suspension, Chassis
Driveline, Mudguards
Turntable mounts
Fifth wheel mounts
Load anchorage

3. Side marker lights
Load anchorage
Load bearing deck
cross members
Chassis
Tyres and wheels

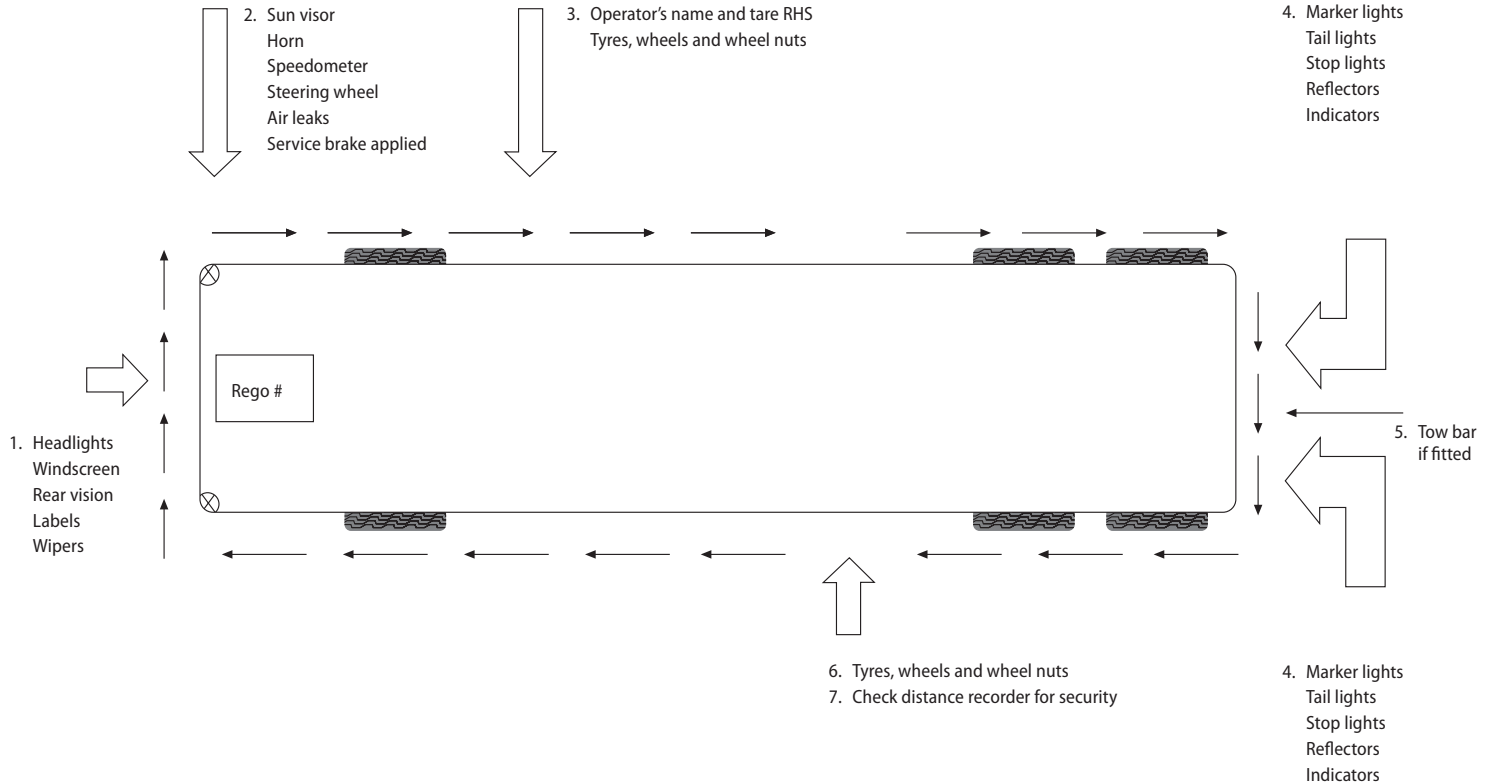
4. Marker lights
Tail lights
Stop lights
Reflectors
Indicators

2. Trade name and tare RHS
Cab corrosion
Tyres and wheels
Air tanks and leaks
Fuel tanks, Exhaust
Suspension, Chassis
Driveline, Mudguards
Turntable mounts
Fifth wheel mounts
Load anchorage

3. Side marker lights
Load anchorage
Load bearing deck
cross members
Chassis
Tyres and wheels

4. Marker lights
Tail lights
Stop lights
Reflectors
Indicators

Visual walk-around inspection (bus)



The chances of vehicle safety defects going undetected will be reduced now that the Police and Land Transport NZ are being trained to use the same guidelines across the country.

Make the walk-around inspection part of your pre-trip routine and have the defects fixed BEFORE going on the road. It is the smart way to avoid expensive fines and costly down-time resulting from a vehicle being ordered off the road.

The improvements in the inspection process set out in the guidelines have been created through a partnership between Land Transport NZ, the New Zealand Police, the Road Transport Forum and the Bus and Coach Association.



Section 115 of the Land Transport Act 1998 empowers enforcement officers to direct that a vehicle must not be used on a road. The guidelines are to assist with the more consistent application of the section.

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