

Limousine In-Service Maintenance Standards

November 2022

Document title	Limousine In-Service Maintenance Standards
Contact details	Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics Passenger Transport Division Commercial Passenger Vehicles
Approved by	Registrar of Motor Vehicles Director of Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport
Date approved	November 2022
Document review	Annually

Version	Date	Author	Changes made
1.0	June 2019	Passenger Transport	Remove - A current approved CVL label is to be affixed on the front windscreen, passenger side, bottom corner and must be fitted outside of any glazing tint band. The fitted label is to be located so that any information on the label can be easily viewed by a person standing outside of the vehicle.
1.1	November 2022	Passenger Transport	Converted into new template. Amended roadworthy definition. Amended limousine definition and removed maximum seating capacity to align with legislative changes in force at 25 May 2022.

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1. Introduction

The principal purpose of this document is to advise the Commercial Passenger Vehicle (CPV) industry the minimum standards for limousines that form part of the conditions of licence. These conditions are applicable to limousines when being assessed for first registration as well as those that are already in-service.

This document has been approved for the purposes of Sections 33(5) and 37F(5) of the *Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Act 1991* and regulation 9(2) of the Commercial Passenger (Miscellaneous) Regulations 1992, and may be cited as the approved standard and the specified minimum maintenance requirements for limousines. Relevant sections of the Northern Territory legislation include:

- *Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Act 1991*
 Section 37F(5) It is a condition of a limousine licence that the limousine endorsed on the licence is used as a limousine and is maintained to an approved standard.
- *Commercial Passenger (Miscellaneous) Regulations 1992*
 Regulation 9 (2) If the Registrar of Motor Vehicles specifies minimum maintenance that is to be carried out on a commercial passenger vehicle, the operator of the vehicle must ensure that maintenance is carried out on the vehicle in accordance with that specified.

This document is intended for use by the Director, the Registrar, operators, drivers, networks, Inspectors and Authorised Inspectors.

Please note all CPV industry participants being either a driver, operator or network, must be aware of the regulator's expectations and what it considers to be fit and proper. For further information refer to Information Bulletin [CPV03 Fit and Proper Assessments and Disqualifying Offences for the CPV Industry](#).

Limousines operating in the NT must comply with these standards at all times. Limousines must also be serviced and maintained in line with the vehicle manufacturer's recommended periodic maintenance schedule, and comply with all applicable Australian Design Rules (ADRs) and roadworthy standards.

Any item that is fitted in compliance with these standards shall be deemed to have written approval unless otherwise written or instructed by the Director.

These standards are intended to ensure limousines provide a safe transport option to the public. However where necessary, and in consideration to public and industry expectations, the Director may exempt in writing, a vehicle or class of vehicles from the requirement to meet part or parts of these standards, and an Inspector may exempt in writing, a particular vehicle from the requirement to meet part or parts of these standards. Where an exemption is granted by an Inspector, it should not exceed a continuous period of three months.

Cindy-Lee McDonald
 Registrar of Motor Vehicles
 Director of Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport

2. Definitions

Act (the) means the *Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Act 1991*.

ADR means the Australian Design Rules for road vehicles.

Advertising / Advertisement means any advertisement, statement or representation of any kind displayed on or in a limousine, such as lettering, maps, plans, drawings or pictorial images and includes bumper stickers.

ARR means the Australian Road Rules as contained under the NT Traffic Regulations 1999.

Approved means approved in writing by the Director.

Australian Standards means documents that are published by the Standards Australia organisation which set out specifications and procedures.

Authorised Inspector means a person appointed under the *Motor Vehicles Act 1949* and approved by the Director to carry out inspections on a class or classes of commercial passenger vehicles.

CP(R)T Act means the *Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Act 1991*.

Commercial Vehicle Licence (CVL) means a licence to operate a commercial passenger vehicle which has been issued by the Director under the relevant section of the *Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Act 1991*.

Decal means a sticker or design transfer (whether decorative or otherwise), which can be attached to the vehicle either directly or via magnetic backing.

Director means the Director of Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport appointed under Section 5(1) of the *Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Act 1991*.

In-service means a motor vehicle that is registered under the *Motor Vehicles Act 1949* and is endorsed against a licence that is granted or renewed under the *Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Act 1991*.

Inspector means a person appointed or declared as such under section 64 of the *Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Act 1991*.

Limousine means an approved vehicle that:

1. is used, with the services of a driver, to carry passengers for hire or reward on pre-booked journeys at pre-arranged fares;
2. is not fitted with a meter that either calculates or indicates the fare payable; and
3. does not stand or ply for hire;

Luggage means any container for a person's belongings or any individual item.

Modified means any modification, change or alteration to a vehicle from the original manufactured condition.

MVR means the Motor Vehicle Registry.

NT means the Northern Territory of Australia.

Operate in relation to a commercial passenger vehicle means to drive or use, or to cause or employ another person to drive or use, a vehicle to carry passengers for hire or reward, other than only in the capacity of an employee or volunteer.

Operator means the holder of a CVL under which a vehicle is being operated.

Registrar means the Registrar of Motor Vehicles and has the same meaning as that defined in the Motor Vehicles Act 1949.

Regulations means any regulations made under the Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Act 1991 that are applicable to operating limousines for hire or reward in the Northern Territory of Australia.

Roadworthy means a standard determined by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles for a vehicle to be registered as outlined in the “*Northern Territory Inspection Manual for Light Vehicles*” and the “*National Heavy Vehicle Inspection Manual*” as applicable.

Tyre Placard means a plate (or decal) affixed to the vehicle by the manufacturer and which provides specifications/dimensions of the wheels and tyres which may be fitted to the vehicle.

3. Vehicle type

The vehicle must meet the intent of all relevant ADRs and the below standards.

Description	Vehicle requirement
Entry door step height from ground (may include access steps)	Max 410mm
ELR lap-sash belt on outboard seat. (ELR = Emergency Locking Retractor)	All
Aisle width (for van type vehicles)	Min 300mm
Access to vehicle seating positions should be through side door (not via rear door, unless securing a passenger seated in a wheelchair)	Side door access
Seating positions shall be adjacent to a door or accessible via an aisle	All

Limousines must be a luxury vehicle. The following are examples of makes and models which have been previously assessed or are potentially suitable for use as a limousine in the Northern Territory: Mercedes Benz, Jaguar, Cadillac, BMW, Lexus, Rolls Royce, Bentley, Holden Statesman, Ford Fairlane and Hyundai Genesis.

Sports, coupes or cabriolet variants of sedan vehicles are not acceptable for assessment as limousines.

4WD vehicles and People Movers are generally not accepted as limousine vehicles, however operators may apply in writing to the Director to have a particular model considered.

When considering an application to assess a 4WD or People Mover, the Director may consider the intended operation of a vehicle and the public and industry expectations of the category.

4. Vehicle age requirements

There are no age limits for limousines.

5. Inspection requirements

All in-service limousines must be inspected at intervals as determined by the Director which is currently at intervals no greater than 12 months. Current inspection requirements are contained within [Vehicle Inspectors Bulletin No 19](#), unless otherwise specified in a vehicle's commercial vehicle licence (CVL).

6. Equipment

All equipment that is required to be fitted to a limousine must be fitted in accordance with these standards, the manufacturer's recommended installation requirements and any applicable road law.

Equipment must not be located in a position that is likely to cause an injury as a result of an accident and must be maintained in a serviceable condition at all times. Equipment must also be secured to withstand a force equivalent to 20 times its mass.

The display of information and the correct functioning of equipment assists with protecting the drivers and public, and provides important information to all persons including persons living with disabilities.

A person must not fit any device or make any modification to the vehicle or a component used in or fitted to a vehicle, which alters the correct functioning of the vehicle or any vehicle component.

Where applicable, all limousines must be fitted with the following equipment:

- 6.1 A fire extinguisher fitted which has been certified within the past 12 months, is fully charged and meets the requirements of Australian Standard AS 2444. It shall be securely mounted and not be a hazard or cause annoyance to vehicle occupants. It must be easily accessible and must not be obscured. A fire extinguisher located in the boot area in accordance with this standard is acceptable.
- 6.2 All fitted tyres must conform to the tyre placard affixed to the vehicle and must be maintained in a roadworthy condition. Retread tyres are acceptable for use, however if fitted, must comply with the speed and load rating of the vehicle's tyre placard.

Vehicles must be fitted with a suitably inflated spare wheel/tyre assembly and wheel changing equipment as originally supplied with the vehicle from new by the vehicle manufacturer (or to equivalent specifications). Spare wheel/tyre assemblies and wheel changing equipment must be in a serviceable condition as originally designed by the manufacturer and be easily accessible in the event of a vehicle tyre becoming deflated or unserviceable. The spare wheel/tyre assembly including any tools and equipment must be correctly located, secured and covered in line with the vehicle manufacturer's original design or component requirements.

If a spare wheel/tyre assembly is relocated as a result of an approved vehicle modification (such as the fitting of a LPG system), the wheel must be adequately secured.

Where a new vehicle was sold onto the Australian market without a spare wheel/tyre assembly, the alternate device or system fitted to the vehicle by the manufacturer for managing tyre deflations must be maintained and serviceable; e.g. tyre inflation kit or "run flat" tyres. Any spare wheel/tyre assembly and wheel changing or inflating equipment must be secured in the vehicle as originally intended by the manufacturer.

NOTE: Emergency spare wheel/tyre assemblies (space savers) and deflated "run flat" tyres cannot generally be used when operating the vehicle for hire or reward. An exception to this is where the vehicle's primary wheel/tyre assembly has deflated (e.g. punctured) during a journey involving passengers and the emergency spare wheel/tyre assembly (space saver) is needed to complete that

journey; or the operator of the vehicle relies on the “run flat” tyre feature to complete the journey. In any event the driver must comply with applicable speed and distance ratings for that tyre and must not accept any new hiring until the vehicle’s primary wheel/tyre assembly has been repaired and refitted to the vehicle.

An emergency spare wheel/tyre assembly (space saver) is defined as being different in size and construction than the vehicle’s primary wheel assembly and which is restricted in maximum speed and/or travel distance. Run flat tyres are tyres designed to allow continued vehicle operation upon becoming deflated (e.g. puncture), however have maximum speed and travel distance restrictions.

- 6.3 If there is a national safety recall on any vehicle component, equipment or accessory etc. the vehicle must be presented in compliance with the safety recall at the first available opportunity.

7. Exterior

Operators and drivers of limousines should ensure that each vehicle is maintained to a high standard in keeping with public and industry expectations of a reliable and safe transport service. Well maintained and presented vehicles promote community confidence in the industry.

8. Interior

Limousines are to be maintained in a safe and reliable condition that does not present a risk of injury to a driver, passenger or other road user. Operators and drivers of limousines should ensure that each vehicle is maintained to a high standard and in keeping with public and industry expectations of a reliable and clean transport service.

- 8.1 All seating positions shall be adjacent to a door or accessible via an aisle.
- 8.2 All seating including head rests must provide adequate support as originally intended.
- 8.3 All interior lighting must be operational as originally designed.
- 8.4 Any vehicle equipped with factory fitted airbag safety devices is to be free of stickers or any decal plates which may affect operation of the airbags. The vehicle must not be modified in a way, including the fitment of an accessory, which affects any vehicle safety feature or the correct functioning of a vehicle component.

9. Luggage compartment

- 9.1 The luggage compartment such as the boot lid or door seal must be correctly secured, aligned and not be damaged so that it prevents the ingress of exhaust fumes and dust.
- 9.2 The spare wheel assembly, tools and equipment, if fitted, must be secured and covered in line with the vehicle manufacturer’s requirements. If a spare wheel is relocated as a result of an approved vehicle modification such as the fitting of an LPG system or a lift/hoist mechanism for wheelchair access, the wheel must be adequately secured.
- 9.3 Luggage must not be carried in a location or manner that may cause an injury in the event of an accident or emergency braking manoeuvre e.g. luggage carried in an aisle of a vehicle is not acceptable due to it potentially becoming a missile.

10. Accessories and modifications

- 10.1 Any accessory fitted must be maintained in a sound condition, must meet the manufacturer's installation requirements and must also be secured to withstand a force equivalent to 20 times its mass.
- 10.2 Aftermarket audio visual displays may be fitted to the interior of the vehicle provided:
 - 10.2.1 the player or screen does not interfere directly or indirectly with any other vehicle system, the driver's view of the road, or the passengers' view of required information;
 - 10.2.2 no video display screen is in the view of the driver when the vehicle is in motion (this does not apply if screens display only geographic or vehicle data);
 - 10.2.3 the video only displays material which is suitable for passengers of all ages;
 - 10.2.4 any video or audio content complies with all relevant legislative requirements that apply to the content of material being viewed; and
 - 10.2.5 the installation complies with the requirements of the ADRs and ARRs.
- 10.3 Where fitted, an electronic payment processing device (e.g. EFTPOS terminal) must be located in a position that is not likely to cause an injury as a result of an accident.

11. Advertising

Advertising on limousines is permitted.

- 11.1 Any mounted display units, if fitted, must be mounted centrally on the boot or roof, have no sharp edges or protrusions, be of sound construction, be secured to withstand a horizontal force equivalent to 20 times its mass and must not obscure the centre high mount brake light.
- 11.2 Advertisements displayed must be static and must not be reflective (e.g. must not be mirror like in appearance).
- 11.3 Restrictions on Alcohol Advertising
 - 11.3.1 Advertising of take away outlets is not permitted.
 - 11.3.2 Advertising specific alcohol products, or alcohol related promotions such as "drink specials" is not permitted.
 - 11.3.3 Advertising of licenced venues such as restaurants, pubs and clubs is permitted, *however* the advertising should not draw attention to or glamorise alcohol or excessive drinking.
 - 11.3.4 Operators will be directed to remove any advertising which contravenes the above rules. Operators who fail to obey such a direction risk prosecution for breach of operator licence condition, and suspension/cancellation of licence.
- 11.4 The Director may direct an operator to remove any advertising if in the opinion of the Director the advertising is not in keeping with public or industry expectations or the intent of these standards. It is a condition of the Commercial Vehicle Licence (CVL) that operators obey any direction to remove advertising if the Director Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport forms the opinion that the advertising is not consistent with public or industry expectations.

For further information on alcohol advertisement on commercial passenger vehicles, refer to Information Bulletin [CPV27 – Restrictions on Alcohol Advertising on Commercial Passenger Vehicles](#).

12. Trailers

Trailers are allowed as of right.

13. Multiple purpose vehicles

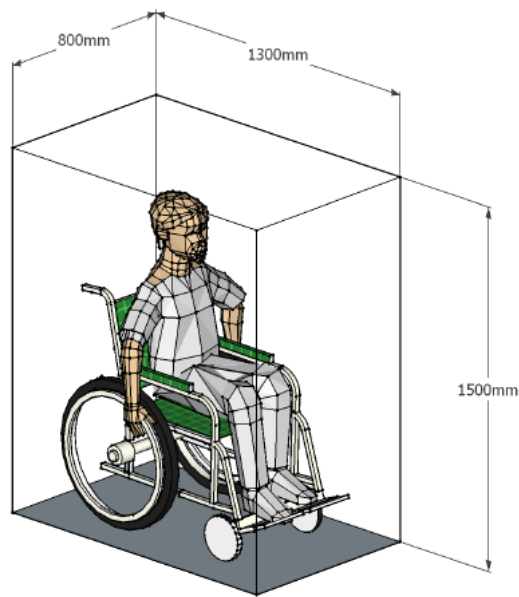
All Multiple Purpose Vehicles (MPVs) being wheelchair accessible vehicles, must be fitted with the following equipment in addition to all other relevant requirements for a limousine. This additional equipment must be maintained in a serviceable condition and at all times comply with the manufacturers or approved installation requirements. All new registered MPVs must comply with the specifications set out below.

Description	Vehicle Requirement
All Limousine (including MPVs)	
1. Entry door step height from ground (may include access steps)	Max 410mm
2. ELR lap-sash belt on outboard seat. (ELR = Emergency Locking Retractor)	All
Multiple Purpose Vehicles – wheelchair space	
3. Minimum allocated wheelchair space of (to be measured as a prism, refer Diagram 1):	Length - 1300mm Width - 800mm Height - 1500mm
4. Minimum door access for wheelchair entry points	Height - 1500mm Width - 800mm
5. Wheelchair access ramp gradient at least	1 in 6
6. Non-removable wheelchair access ramp or hoist mechanism (no removable/portable ramps to be used)	Yes

A vehicle will only be approved as an MPV on acceptance of the modifications by the Director.

- 13.1 A plate or decal indicating the limousine registration number must be affixed in a conspicuous position inside the vehicle, which is clearly visible to passengers seated in any wheelchair position. To fulfil this requirement a second plate may be fitted. The decal (or decals) is to have white lettering on a black background with lettering at least 15mm high.
- 13.2 The wheelchair occupant allocated clear-space (refer Diagram 1) must comply with the requirements outlined in the Commonwealth Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 (as amended).

Diagram 1 – Wheelchair space allocation



- 13.3 The MPV must have a wheelchair hoist or lift mechanism that has been manufactured and installed to comply with the requirements of the Australian/New Zealand Standard (Hoist and ramps for people with disabilities – vehicle mounted) which is current at the time of first registration as an MPV, or a later standard.
- 13.4 The international symbol for accessibility (refer Diagram 2) must be clearly visible at each vehicle access point and on the front of the vehicle. The symbols must comply with AS1428.1 clause 14.2 and 14.3.

Diagram 2 – International Symbol for Accessibility



- 13.5 An MPV must continue to comply with the Australian Standards and all other conditions under which the Director originally approved the vehicle. As a minimum, all vehicles registered in the NT after 1 November 2009 must be fitted with a wheelchair and occupant restraint system which complies with AS/NZS 10542.1:2009 (Technical systems and aids for disabled or handicapped persons – Wheelchair tiedown and occupant-restraint systems – Requirements and test methods for all systems). Systems must be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and guidelines.
- 13.6 Signage indicating the correct method of use for the vehicle's wheelchair restraint system must be displayed in a conspicuous position inside the vehicle. This signage must be clearly visible to persons

involved with securing passengers in wheelchairs and must comply with the relevant Australian Standard in force at the time of first registration as an MPV, or a later Standard.

13.7 Any modifications that effect the vehicle's compliance to ADRs will require:

13.7.1 For Factory new vehicles: A second stage manufacturer's approval and the fitting of a second stage compliance plate to the vehicle.

13.7.2 For In-service vehicles: Engineering certification describing all the vehicle modifications and affected ADRs, and contain detail of how continued compliance with all applicable ADRs is maintained.

13.8 Any modifications to vehicles must not restrict or obstruct any person from using entry and exit doors and emergency exits must be capable of being opened or operated from both the inside and outside of the vehicle.

13.9 Any additional or modified seats and/or seat belts must be fitted and certified as complying with applicable ADRs and National Codes of Practice. Any folding seats must continue to operate as originally designed.

Any vehicle components modified as a result of the vehicle's conversion to an MPV must still comply with the intent of all relevant ADRs.

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