

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(75) 622

Brussels, 21 November 1975

Modification to the
proposal for a

COUNCIL DIRECTIVE (EEC)

concerning the minimum level of training for road transport
drivers

(submitted to the Council by the Commission pursuant to the
second paragraph of article 149 of the EEC Treaty)

COM(75) 622

Explanatory Memorandum

1. On 28 July 1970, the Commission, pursuant to the Provisions of Article 5 of Regulation (EEC) No 543/69 of the Council dated 25 March 1969 (1) submitted to the Council a proposal for a Directive concerning the minimum level of training for road transport drivers (2).
2. By virtue of Article 149, paragraph 2 of the Treaty Establishing the European Economic Community, the Commission now wishes to amend its original proposal in order to take account of further experience it has gained in the field of road transport drivers training.
3. The Commission no longer believes a system of examinations for the very limited number of drivers concerned to be justified and considers that its original proposal went beyond what was required to respond to the need to compensate for a lack of age or experience. It nonetheless believes a course of training in both the theoretical and practical aspects of road transport driving to be necessary in the interests of safe and efficient execution of the occupation.

(1) O.J. of the European Communities No L. 77 of 29.3. 1969, page 49

(2) O.J. of the European Communities No. C 4 of 18.1. 1971, page 12

Modification of the proposal for a Council Directive (EEC) concerning the minimum level of training for road transport drivers (submitted by the Commission to the Council, pursuant to the second paragraph of Article 149 of the EEC Treaty)

The initial proposal of the Commission (doc. COM (70) 842 final) is amended as follows :

- 1) The third and fourth recitals are replaced by the following text:
"Whereas the minimum level of such training should be laid down having regard to the particular circumstances, it is appropriate to take account of the different conditions in road haulage and road passenger transport".
- 2) The text of article 1 is replaced by the following :
"The minimum level of training for road transport drivers engaged in the carriage of goods, referred to in article 5, paragraph 1, subparagraph b), 2nd sentence of Regulation (EEC) no 543/69 of the Council and for those engaged in the carriage of passengers referred to in paragraph 2, sub-paragraph c) of the same article, will have been acquired by any person who satisfactorily undergoes a course of professional training on the subject matters contained in the Annex to this Directive."
- 3) The text of article 2 is replaced by the following :
 1. The persons referred to in article 1 will be entitled to receive an attestation or certificate of professional competence as set out in article 5, paragraph 1, sub-paragraph b) and paragraph 2, subparagraph c) of Regulation (EEC) no 543/69 of the Council.
 2. The attestations or certificates of professional competence referred to in paragraph 1 of this article will be issued by authorities or bodies designated to do so by Member States."

4) Annexes 1 and 2 are replaced by the following text :

"Annex:

The training leading to the gaining of an attestation or a certificate of professional competence will consist of the following :

Pre Training Screening Test

Before embarking on a course of training each candidate must show proof of basic literacy (ability to read road signs and simple instructions and communicate salient facts in written form).

Theory Instruction

Basic laws, regulations and codes affecting the job of a road transport driver, including both traffic and social provisions : international requirements as well as those of own country.

* Theory of loading and instruction on judging safety of load.

* Procedures for the transport of dangerous and unusual loads.

Procedures to be adopted in case of accident.

Procedures to be adopted in case of breakdown.

Procedures for ensuring the safety of vehicles and loads in ferry-boat crossings

Driving (Theory)

Basic principles of working of the internal combustion engine as they relate to ability to control vehicle.

Driving theory.

Accident prevention.

Measures to be taken in adverse climatic conditions, including :

fog,

heavy rain,

high winds,

snow,

ice,

extreme heat.

Practical Instruction (Non-Driving)

Vehicle checking:

fuel,
oil,
water,
battery,
tyres,
wheel changing,
electrical fuses,
fan belt changing,
loading,
unloading.

Practical Instruction (Driving)

Preparatory to start up (all round check).
Starting up.
Preparation for pulling away (recheck).
Pulling away on the flat.
Pulling away on a hill (ascent and descent).
Correct use of gears.
Observance of speed limits.
Observance of all road signs.
Correct use of accelerator.
Correct use of brakes.
Correct use of indicators.
Use of correct hand signals.
Consideration for other road users.
Anticipation and "reading" of road and traffic conditions.
Stopping with safety in an emergency.
Procedure at road junctions.
Turning to the right and left with safety.
Manoeuvring vehicle in restricted space, including :
 Parking at kerb-side
 Reversing into narrow opening (under guidance).

Length of Instruction

Instruction will last 40 hours of which 30 hours will be practical instruction.

The matters in the Annex marked * may be omitted in the training of road transport drivers engaged in the carriage of passengers.