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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1999 No. 2932**

**DISABLED PERSONS  
TRANSPORT**

**The Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Serco Metrolink  
T68A Vehicles) Exemption Order 1999**

*Made - - - - 27th October 1999*  
*Laid before Parliament 29th October 1999*  
*Coming into force - - 19th November 1999*

The Secretary of State in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 47 of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995(1) and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, having consulted the Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee and such other persons as he considered appropriate in accordance with section 47(3) of the said Act, hereby makes the following Order:

**1.** This Order may be cited as the Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Serco Metrolink T68A Vehicles) Exemption Order 1999 and shall come in to force on 19th November 1999.

**2.** Any reference in this Order to a numbered regulation is a reference to a regulation bearing that number in the Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations 1998(2).

**3.** This Order applies to the rail vehicles numbered 2001 to 2006 of the class known as “T68A Bi-directional Light Rail Vehicles” (‘the exempted vehicles’) as manufactured by Ansaldo Trasporti S.p.A. for use on the Manchester Metrolink system.

**4.—(1)** Subject to articles 5 and 6 below, the exempted vehicles are hereby authorised to be used for carriage even though they do not conform with those provisions of the Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations 1998 referred to in paragraph (2) below.

(2) The provisions with which the exempted vehicles are not required to conform are regulations —

4(3)(b); and  
11(3)(d).

**5.—(1)** The exemption given in respect of regulation 4(3)(b) shall cease at the end of 31st December 2000.

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(1) 1995 c. 50.  
(2) S.I.1998/2456.

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(2) The exemption given in respect of regulation 11(3)(d) shall cease at the end of 30th November 2014.

6. The authorisation shall cease forthwith in respect of an exempted vehicle which is operated by a person other than Serco Metrolink Limited unless the Secretary of State has been given written notice in advance specifying the name and address of that other person.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions

*Keith Hill*  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State  
Department of the Environment, Transport and  
the Regions

27th October 1999

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the order)*

This Order authorises the use of specified rail vehicles forming T68A Bi-directional Light Rail Vehicles, although they do not conform with certain requirements of the Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations 1998 because:

audible warnings are emitted whenever passenger doors in the vehicle sides are closed; and  
the gap between seat handholds and the seat itself is less than required by those Regulations.

It sets time limits and imposes a condition on the authorisation.