
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2023 No. 524

The Road Vehicles (Authorisation of Special Types) (General) (Amendment) Order 2023

Amendments of Article 3 and Part 5 relating to longer semi-trailers

3. In article 3(1) (“interpretation: general”)—
- (a) after the definition of “local excavation vehicle”, insert—
- ““longer semi-trailer” means a semi-trailer, (other than an abnormal indivisible load vehicle, a low loader or a stepframe low loader), in respect of which the longitudinal distance from the axis of the king pin to the rear of the trailer exceeds—
- (a) 12.5 metres, in the case of a car transporter, or
- (b) 12 metres, in any other case
- (but a semi-trailer which is capable of extension is only a longer semi-trailer when extended so that it exceeds the above distances);
- “low loader” has the same meaning as in regulation 3(2) of the Construction and Use Regulations;(1)
- (b) after the definition of “motorway”, insert—
- ““operator” means—
- (a) a person who holds an operator’s licence in respect of a longer semi-trailer under section 2 of the Goods Vehicles (Licensing of Operators) Act 1995(2);
- (b) if there is no such person, the driver of the motor vehicle towing the longer semi-trailer where the towing vehicle belongs to the driver or is in the driver’s possession under an agreement for hire or hire-purchase, or a loan;
- (c) in any other case, the person whose employee or agent the driver of the towing vehicle is;”.
- (c) after the definition of “road recovery vehicle”, insert—
- ““semi-trailer” has the same meaning as in regulation 3 of the Construction and Use Regulations(3)
- (d) after the definition of “special type agricultural vehicle”, insert—
- ““stepframe low loader” has the same meaning as in regulation 3 of the Construction and Use Regulations(4);”.

(1) S.I. 1986/1078. Definition inserted by S.I. 1990/317, regulation 3(1).

(2) 1995 c. 23. Section 2 was amended by the Transport Act 2000 (c. 38), section 261(1), the Haulage Permits and Trailer Registration Act 2018 (c. 19), section 11(2), S.I. 2011/2632, paragraph 2 of Schedule 2, S.I. 2019/708, regulation 2(2), and by S.I. 2022/293, regulation 24.

(3) Definition inserted into regulation 3 by S.I. 1987/676, regulation 5.

(4) Definition inserted into regulation 3 by S.I. 1990/317, regulation 3(1).