

Harmonization of requirements for 'high speed' tractors

The Challenge

The European directive **2003/37/EC** deals with type approval of agricultural and forestry tractors, trailers and interchangeable towed machinery. Before this directive came into force, each of the EU member states had its own procedures and standards that allow for the registration or first use of agricultural and forestry tractors. The implementation of this Directive enables manufacturers to sell their products all over Europe without having to change the designs to meet any specific local requirements.

Still not everything is solved. For tractors with a design speed over 40 km/h no European harmonization exists and manufacturers have to contend with differing rules in the 27 Member States.

The CEMA position

The CEMA position is clear: there is a need for harmonization taking into account the current legislative framework complete for T1, T2 and T3 tractors, the state of the art, existing national rules, and additional risks due to higher travel speed and increased road use.

Member states should avoid the further development of diverging national rules for high speed tractors which is neither appropriate nor desirable.

The European Commission should prepare a legislative proposal to complete the current framework for high speed category T5 tractors.

"High speed T5 tractors are the flagship vehicle of this industry. It is imperative that the European market has a level playing field for the sale of these vehicles."



Mark Ireland (JCB)

CEMA itself is mobilised to investigate the implication on the legislative side but also the standardisation side. A common industry proposal will be the result.



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