



Údarás Um Shábháilteacht Ar Bhóithre
Road Safety Authority

Working To Save Lives



Vehicle Roadworthiness

What you need to know

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Role of RSA in Vehicle Roadworthiness

RSA

- Vehicle Standards
 - Setting standards to which vehicles must comply
- Vehicle Testing – Overseeing Role
 - Commercial Vehicle Testing
 - NCT



Are Irish Vehicles Roadworthy?

- During 2009 RSA Vehicle Inspectors participated in 299 roadside roadworthiness checkpoints & checked 2,585 HGV's
 - 44% of vehicles were defective
- Most common defects were
 - 21% had lighting / marking defects
 - 17% had braking defects
 - 12% had wheels / tyres defects



Benefits of a Roadworthy Vehicle

RSA

– General Benefits

- Increases driver safety and improves their working environment
- Increases road safety for other road users
- Ensures compliance with the law and avoids penalty points
- May avoid delays at roadside checks



Benefits of a Roadworthy Vehicle



– Business Benefits

- Reduced maintenance costs through less vehicle damage and fewer vehicle breakdowns
- More reliable vehicles leading to increased customer satisfaction
- Improved fuel consumption
- Increased vehicle residual value



What we found at the roadside

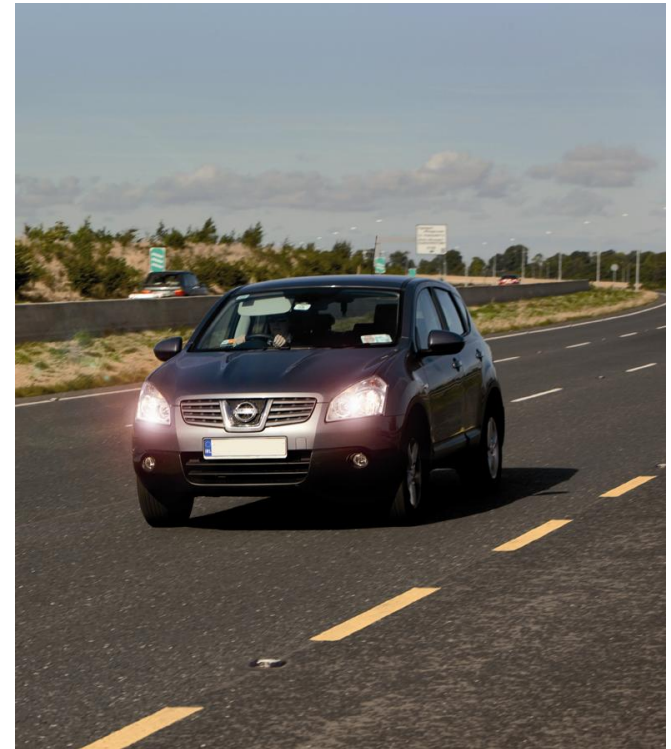


Keeping your Vehicle Roadworthy

RSA

– Regular Driver Checks on Vehicle

- Lights & Markings
- Wheels & Tyres – condition & pressure
- Under bonnet levels check
- Load / luggage security
- Warning lights on dash
- Windows & mirrors – view not obstructed
- Safety belts



Keeping your Vehicle Roadworthy

RSA

Van & LGV Driver Walkaround Checks

In Cab Checks

- Check driving controls, seat position & safety belt
- General housekeeping & cleanliness of cab
- Remove any obstructions or loose material especially in the foot well
- Turn on engine & check all instrument gauges & warning lights working
- Tachograph: Calibrated, correct hours & speed limiter plaque displayed (where applicable)
- Wipers, washers, horn, demister & temperature controls working correctly
- Steering & brakes working correctly
- Ensure safety belts accessible & working
- Hi-Viz jacket/vest accessible in cab

External Checks

- Vehicle sitting square & not leaning to one side
- Check underneath front of vehicle for fluid leaks
- Bumpers (Front & Rear) in good condition
- Exhaust: No excessive noise or smoke
- Number plates (Front & Rear) in place, visible & clean
- Fuel cap seat: In place, in good condition & no leaks
- Check engine oil, coolant, windscreen wash and brake fluid for levels & leaks

Mirrors & Windows

- Mirrors secure & aligned correctly
- Clean & in good condition
- View not obstructed e.g. by stickers, etc.
- Valid Insurance & Tax discs displayed

Access

- Steps undamaged
- Good worn surface
- Clean
- Doors working properly

Lights, Indicators & Reflectors

- All in place
- Undamaged
- Working
- Clean
- Correct colour

Load Security

- Vehicle loaded within load limits
- Load distributed evenly across axles
- Bulkhead in position
- Load secured properly (restraining equipment, straps, racking)
- Restraint equipment inspected: no damage, no loose racking bolts, etc.

Wheels & Tyres

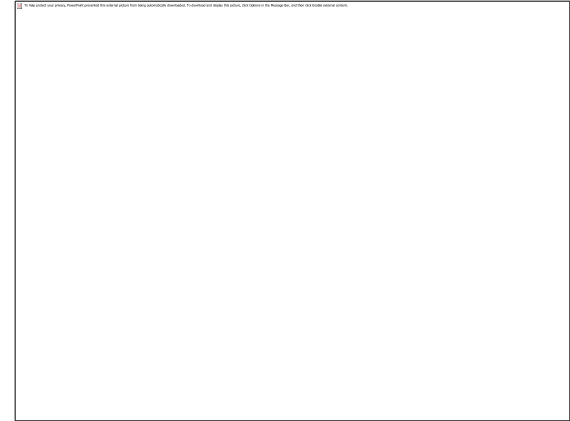
- Tyres correctly inflated
- Tyres correct tread depth
- Tyres undamaged: No abrasions, bulges or tears
- Road wheel nuts all in place, correctly fitted & secure
- Wheel nut indicators (if in use) correctly aligned



Keeping your Vehicle Roadworthy

RSA

- Vehicle Maintenance
 - Vehicles should be maintained as per manufacturers recommendations
- Organisations with a fleet of vehicles
 - Designate a person to ensure vehicles are roadworthy
 - Planned routine vehicle maintenance programme
 - Regular driver checks with a system in place for reporting, rectifying & recording defects



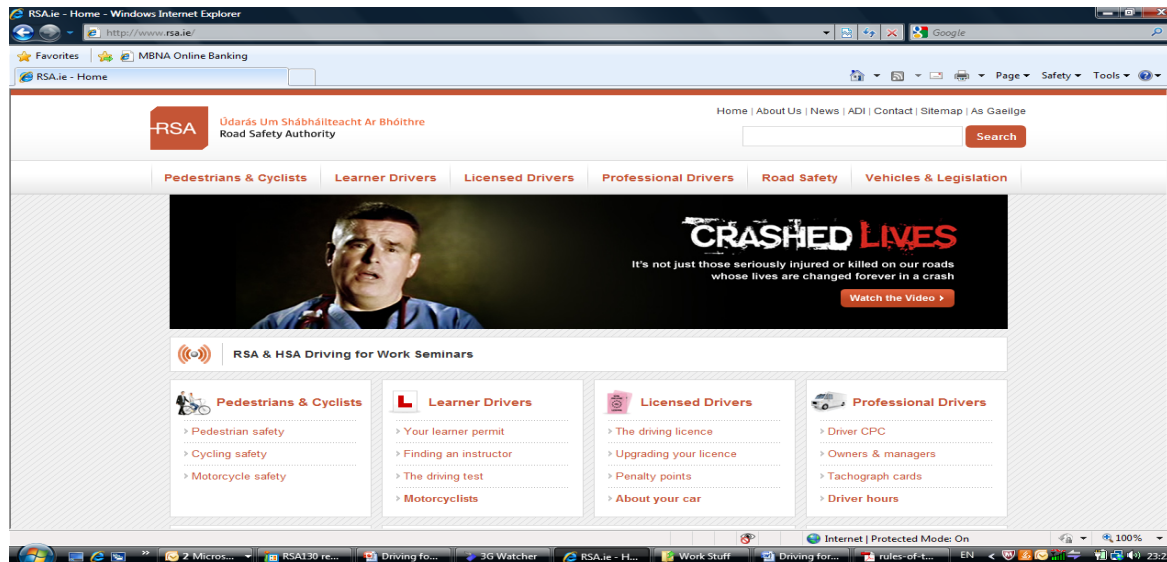
What we found at the roadside



More Information on Vehicle Roadworthiness

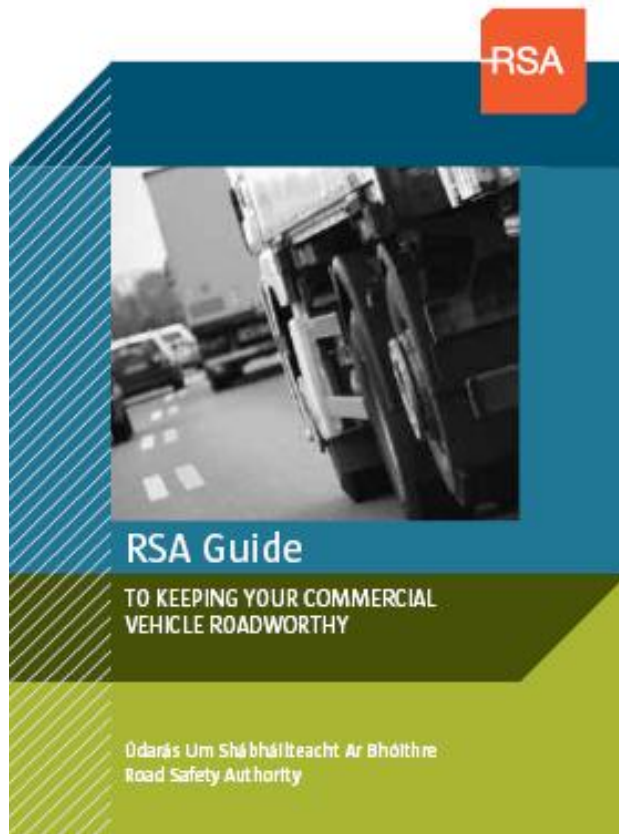


- Vehicle distributors / dealers
- CPC in Road Transport Management
- RSA Website – www.rsa.ie or cvtadmin@rsa.ie
- RSA Guide to keeping your commercial vehicle roadworthy



More Information on Vehicle Roadworthiness

RSA



- Benefits of preventative vehicle maintenance
- Operator & driver responsibilities
- Preventative maintenance systems – assessing, scheduling & recording
- Driver walk around checks
- Key legal obligations
- Sample maintenance check sheets
- Walkaround check posters – produced by HSA, Gardaí & RSA

Summary



- Are Irish vehicles roadworthy?
- Benefits of a roadworthy vehicle
- Keeping your vehicle roadworthy
- More information on vehicle roadworthiness



Working To Save Lives



THANK YOU

**Questions answered
in Q&A Session**

Údarás Um Shábháilteacht Ar Bhóithre
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