



Notification Number: 2011/627/UK

Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012

Date received : 07/12/2011
End of Standstill : 08/03/2012
Issue of comments by : Commission, Italy

Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - SG(2011) D/52925

Directive 98/34/EC

Notificación - Oznámení - Notifikation - Notifizierung - Teavitamine - Γνωστοποίηση - Notification - Notification - Notifica - Pietiekums - Pranešimas - Bejelerítés - Notifika - Kennisgeving - Zawiadomienie - Notificação - Hlásenie-Obvestilo - Ilmoitus - Anmälan - Нотификация : 2011/0627/UK - Notificare.

No abre el plazo - Nezahtuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késések - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Nao inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - Не се предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201102925.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 001 IND 2011 0627 UK EN 07-12-2011 UK NOTIF

2. Member State

UK

3. Department Responsible

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
Knowledge and Innovation Group
1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET.

Email: 9834@bis.gsi.gov.uk.

3. Originating Department

The Department for Regional Development Northern Ireland



4. Notification Number

2011/0627/UK - T30T

5. Title

Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012

6. Products Concerned

The draft Regulations revokes and replaces the Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations (RVAR) 2001. The revised RVAR regulations will introduce necessary changes reflecting agreements reached on technical and operational improvements and set technical standards for rail vehicles used for passenger carriage in Northern Ireland to make them accessible to disabled people and which are otherwise not subject to the European rail accessibility standards provided for under the interoperability Directives.

7. Notification Under Another Act

- Whilst the draft Regulations will not be notified under any other European Directives, we are intending to notify them as a "Notified National Technical Rule" for the purposes of the Interoperability regime introduced under Directives (96/48/EC, 2001/16/EC and 2004/50/EC).

8. Main Content

The draft Regulations set accessibility standards to ensure that disabled people, including those who need to travel in a wheelchair, can get on and off rail vehicles in safety and travel in them in safety and reasonable comfort. The revised RVAR regulations will apply to those rail vehicles which are currently subject to the Rail Vehicle Accessibility Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2001 (i.e. all "regulated rail vehicles" in service prior to 1st July 2008 as they will not be subject to the PRM TSI), to older vehicles (those introduced before 31 December 1998) when they undergo refurbishment and to vehicles introduced after 1st July 2008 where the Department is satisfied that Interoperable requirements need not apply. Enforcement would be made the responsibility of the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland, a government body which exercises regulatory powers and health and safety powers in relation to the Northern Ireland rail system.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

The draft Regulations seek to amend an existing regime in light of significant changes in the legislative landscape following the introduction of new European requirements for the accessibility of heavy rail vehicles (trains) through the Technical Specification of Interoperability for Persons with Reduced Mobility (Commission Decision 2008/164/EC). Amendments have been made to reflect this reduction in scope to implement agreed changes following consultations with the disability lobby and in light of experience of operating under the current regime for over a decade. They will revoke and replace the Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2001 [S.R. 2001/264].

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

No Basic Text exists

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No



12. Grounds for the Emergency

-

13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

No

15. Impact assessment

-

16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspect

No - The draft has no significant impact on international trade

SPS aspect

No - The draft is not a sanitary or phytosanitary measure

Catherine Day
General Secretary
European Commission

Contact point Directive 98/34
Fax: (32-2) 296 76 60
email: dir83-189-central@ec.europa.eu