

The EFA Position regarding matters covered by:

## **The implementation of Directive 2006/126/EC on driving licences**

Presented to the stakeholders' workshop  
30 May 2017, 10.00 – 17:00  
Borschette Conference Centre,  
Rue Froissart 36, 1040 Brussels



EFA is a professional association representing the interest of its members who are national driver training associations from 23 European countries.

There are two issues which are causing concern to our members and are having an effect on their ability to provide high quality value for money training to clients. One matter concerns vehicles in category A2 and the other refers to category BE.

### **Category A2**

Annex II of the directive which covers “Minimum Requirements For Driving Tests” states in section B – “Test Of Skills and Behaviour regarding the vehicle and its equipment at paragraph 5.2 Category A2 the minimum requirements of the motorcycle to obtain the A2 driving Licence. It is indicated that a candidate must use a “Motorcycle without sidecar, with a cylinder capacity of at least 400 cm<sup>3</sup>, and an engine power of at least 25 kW”. Being bound by European legislation on pollution and wanting to have up-to-date motorcycles over time, European driving schools urge that to eliminate the cylinder capacity of at least 400cc but maintain the engine power at 25 kW.

Manufacturers do not offer many models that fit within the current directive with the result that the motorcycles used for this purpose are of a cylinder capacity that is almost identical to that of the motorcycles used to obtain a driving licence in category A. Consumers complain about this as they have the perception of doing an identical exam for the two different types of driving license. The result is that the principle of gradual access to motorcycle licensing is lacking since the users choose to directly obtain a category A driving license.

### **Category BE**

Member States may decide that no restriction to vehicles with automatic transmission shall be recorded on the driving licence for a category C, CE, D or DE when the applicant already holds a driving licence obtained on a vehicle with manual transmission in at least one of the following categories: B, BE, C, CE, C1, C1E, D, DE, D1 or D1E

EFA would like this provision be extended to include BE so that if a person has passed a test in a category B manual transmission vehicle they should be allowed to be tested in BE with automatic transmission and then allowed to drive BE with manual transmission.

This change is requested because more and more customers are demanding to take the BE test in an automatic vehicle and the number of automatics is growing every year particularly in larger sized vehicles. This means that driving schools are having to retain and maintain two towing vehicles for what is a relatively small market which increases the cost to the consumer. We request a change to the situation that applies to CE and DE.

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