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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**1999 No. 454**

**Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use)  
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999**

**Part II**

**Construction, Equipment and Maintenance of Vehicles**

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*Vision*

**Windscreen wipers and washers**

**39.**—(1) Subject to paragraphs (4) and (5), a vehicle fitted with a windscreen shall, unless the driver can obtain an adequate view to the front of the vehicle without looking through the windscreen, be fitted with one or more efficient automatic windscreen wipers capable of clearing the windscreen so that the driver has an adequate view of the road in front of both sides of the vehicle and to the front of the vehicle.

(2) Subject to paragraphs (3), (4) and (5), a wheeled vehicle required by paragraph (1) or regulation 26 of the Public Service Vehicles (Conditions of

Fitness, Equipment and Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995(1) to be fitted with a wiper or wipers shall also be fitted with a windscreen washer capable of cleaning, in conjunction with the wiper, the area of the windscreen swept by the wiper, of mud or similar deposit.

(3) The requirement specified in paragraph (2) does not apply in respect of—

- (a) an agricultural motor vehicle (other than a vehicle first used on or after 1st June 1986 which is driven at more than 20 mph);
- (b) a track-laying vehicle;
- (c) a vehicle having a maximum speed not exceeding 20 mph;
- (d) a vehicle being used to provide a local service, as defined in the Transport Act 1985(2).

(4) Instead of complying with paragraphs (1) and (2), a vehicle may comply with Community Directive 78/318.

(5) Instead of complying with paragraph (1) an agricultural motor vehicle may comply with Community Directive 79/1073.

(6) Every wiper and washer fitted in accordance with this regulation shall at all times while the vehicle is being used on a road be maintained in efficient working order and be properly adjusted.

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(1) S.R. 1995 No. 447 to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations  
(2) 1985 c. 67