

BULLETIN

Automobile Repairers Division and Victorian Tyre Dealers Association



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Licensed Vehicle Tester Notice

Changes to Vehicle Standards Information 16 & 26

Dear member

Following the recent sunsetting of the Road Safety (Vehicle) Regulations 2009, the VACC made several recommendations on behalf of members that are licensed vehicle testers and those belonging to the Victorian Tyre Dealers Division (VTDA). Ultimately, we held the position that testing standards should be aligned to the relevant Australian Design Rule (ADR).

We are pleased to confirm that the advice and feedback from VACC members have been recognised resulting in an amendment to the Regulations in respect to tyre tread depths. Both VSI 16 & 26 have now been updated to reflect this change and outlines that a tread wear indicator located in a **principal groove** must not contact the roadway and if it does then it is deemed to be unroadworthy.

Please note: ADR 23/02 defines principal grooves as “the wide grooves positioned in the central zone of the tyre tread, which have tread wear indicators located inside them.

The updated standard also outlines that a tyre should **not** be rejected if there is less than 1.5mm of tread on the secondary grooves. This was a point of contention as the previous rule did not factor in tyres that were manufactured with secondary grooves less than 1.5mm in tread depth.

ADR 23/02 defines secondary grooves as “the supplementary grooves of the tread pattern which may disappear in the course of the tyre’s life”.

The change in VicRoads testing standards reflect the following:

An update in relation to tyre wear, which clarifies how to identify wear in principal grooves (as opposed to secondary grooves).

Note that this is not a change to how wear is identified but more so clarification of terminology.

As per current requirements a tyre must be rejected for certification if a tread wear indicator located in a principal groove contacts the roadway, or if excessive uneven wear is visible across the tyre width.

A tyre should not be rejected if there is less than 1.5mm of tread in a secondary groove, noting that some tyres are manufactured with secondary grooves which are shallower than 1.5mm.

Please ensure that all testing mechanics on your Licence are made aware of this change, and that they refer to the updated standard when testing light vehicles.

To download the Updated VSI26 click [HERE](#).

To download the Updated VSI16 click [HERE](#).

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