

Explanatory note

Air Quality Certificate voucher upgrades for retrofitted pollutant emissions treatment devices

Purpose

The purpose of this note is to clarify the provisions for complying with the Decrees of 15 May 2013 and 21 June 2016 when awarding Air Quality Certificates for vehicles with retrofitted devices that allow them to reduce pollutant emissions.

What retrofitted devices are included?

Retrofitted devices that reduce pollutant emissions using particle filters, SCR (Selective Catalytic Reduction) units, or a combination of the two.

Particle filters reduce particle emissions, while SCR units limit the emission of nitrogen oxides (NOx).

They must be approved and installed after the vehicle is first put on the road.

Which vehicles are included?

The eligible vehicles are coaches, buses, and lorries with compression-ignition engines and cars or vans with compression-ignition engines that have been listed as heavy vehicles due to their pollutant emissions. This includes all diesel heavy vehicles, i.e. those that are covered by European heavy-duty vehicle standards (Euro II, III, IV, etc.).

Device CRIT'AIR voucher upgrades

In line with article 3 of the Decree of 21 June 2016, the owners of the above mentioned equipped with retrofitted pollutant emissions treatment devices may receive better Crit'air classifications than vehicles without such devices.

However, it should be noted that a vehicle of a given Euro standard that is fitted with a device is not fully equivalent to a vehicle with a higher Euro standard. Performance only improves in terms of particle/NOx emissions. Other pollutants may be moderately increased. That is why the Euro standard listed on the registration remains unchanged.

Vehicles with a retrofitted device may benefit from upgraded CRIT'AIR classifications in line with Table 1, attached to this note.

The supporting documents that must be provided for an upgrade may differ depending on the conditions under which the retrofitted pollutant emissions treatment device was installed. These are described in detail in the following pages.

Supporting documentation

1. For vehicles that had a retrofitted device installed in France

- a. **If the device was installed before 1 July 2013 (the date the Decree of 15 May 2013 went into force)**

The applicant must provide the **vehicle's certificate of compliance, issued using the model put forth in** appendix 3 to the Decree of 15 May 2013 (example below). The new group by vehicle air pollution classification is listed in point 0.7 of this certificate.

Please note: This certificate must be issued by the CNRV (Centre National de Réception des Véhicules, or French National Vehicle Registration Centre). Manufacturers and installers may not provide this document.

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Or, if the applicant does not have the certificate of compliance, they may submit:

- an **official testing report**.
- a **certificate from the device manufacturer**.
- **proof of installation of the device** (invoice, certificate, etc.).

Air Quality Certificate Issuing Service

- b. **If the device was installed after 1 July 2013 (the date the Decree of 15 May 2013 went into force)**

The applicant must provide the **installation certificate** issued using the model put forth in appendix 2 of the Decree of 15 May 2013 (example below). The new group by vehicle air pollution classification is listed in point 0.7 of this certificate.

This installation certificate is issued by the device installer. It is therefore necessary to verify:

- *that the installer is properly licensed by the manufacturer.*
- *that the new group by vehicle air pollution classification declared in point 0.7 corresponds to the upgrading table.*
- *that the registration number listed in point 0.5.2 of the installation certificate corresponds to the vehicle for which the upgrade request has been made.*

2. For vehicles that had a retrofitted device installed outside of France

a. If the device was installed before 17 June 2014

The applicant must prove that the device complies with the Decree of 15 May 2013.

They must have:

- an **official testing report** issued by a technical services provider recognized by a member state of the European Union that confirms the effectiveness of the device installed on their vehicle(s). Reports must be translated into French. No request can be considered without these documents.
- **proof of installation** of the device (invoice, certificate, etc.)

b. If the device was installed after 17 June 2014 and therefore complies with UN regulation No. 132

The applicant must provide:

- the **acceptance certificate for the device type in question** in line with UNECE regulation No. 132. The device's performance levels are listed in points 14, 14.1, and 14.2 of this certificate. ;
- any **additional clauses** (examples below).
- a **photograph of the markings** on the retrofitted device. These markings may resemble: Ex 132R-xxxxx, with x standing in for numbers. A classification (I, II A or B, III or IV) will also be indicated by the markings.
- **proof of installation** of the device (invoice, certificate, etc.).

Markings example:

Before submitting their declaration, the applicant will verify that the markings in the photograph correspond to the acceptance certificate by type.

NB:

- A device in class I, II A or II B under UNECE regulation No. 132 is a particle filter.
- A device in class III under UNECE regulation No. 132 is an SCR unit.
- A device in class IV under UNECE regulation No. 132 is a combination particle filter and SCR unit.

The new group by vehicle air pollution classification will be determined using the values listed in points 14 and below on the acceptance certificate by type.

Acceptance certificate example:

Additional clauses example: