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Date: 26 June 2006
Our Ref: **F0000400**

Dear

I am writing in reply to your request for the legal definition of a showman's goods vehicle.

Schedule 3 of the Goods Vehicles (Licensing of Operators) Regulations 1995 state that showmen's goods vehicles and trailers do not require an operator's licence. To claim the exemption, you have to be able to prove

- (i) that you are a showman AND
- (ii) that you are operating a showman's good vehicle

The legal definitions are contained within the Vehicle Excise and Registration Act 1994.

Section 62 of that Act defines a "showman's vehicle" as

A vehicle

(a) registered... in the name of a person following the business of a travelling showman, and

(b) used solely by him for the purposes of his business and for no other purpose

Membership of The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain (or equivalent organization) is required to show that you are "following the business of a travelling showman".

The same Act defines a "showman's good vehicle" as

A showman's vehicle which

(a) is a good vehicle, and

(b) is permanently fitted with a living van or some other special type of body or superstructure forming part of the equipment of the show of the person in whose name the vehicle is registered...

If you are operating a goods vehicle with a gross plated weight of more than 3.5 tonnes which does not fit the above description, I would advise you to contact our Enquiry Unit for further advice and/or an application pack – telephone 0870 606 0440, or email enquiries@vosa.gov.uk

Advice and assistance

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us, quoting reference **F0000400**. The attachment included with this letter provides further information, including details of our complaints procedures.

Yours faithfully

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