

**SVA Testing Standards Enquiry**

IM E17

REF No. 07

**Details Of Enquiry:**

A vehicle was recently examined against a Noise and Emissions Model Report. When the vehicle exhaust was compared against the details within the MR, a number of differences were found – but all of the differences were ‘downstream’ of the emission control devices.

The manual states that a different silencer will be acceptable, if the noise level is not more than 2db(A) above the ‘evidence of compliance’.

1. Most vehicles presented for test are fitted with at least two silencers. Which silencer does the manual refer too?
2. If the manual actually means to say that any/all silencers can be changed (subject to the static test), are differences in the design and size of interconnecting exhaust tubing acceptable too?

**Answer:**

1. The relaxation applies to any silencer, however in reviewing the situation it has been decided that in respect of a vehicle where compliance has been demonstrated through Type Approval or a Model Report an alternative silencer will be permitted only where;

- the replacement is considered by the examiner to be an aftermarket replacement product suitable for the vehicle concerned ie of substantially the same size/characteristics, or
- the replacement is considered necessary to facilitate a design change on the vehicle structure, ie a lowered floor conversion.

**This criteria must be applied from 1 July 2006. Please advise any current applicants that may be affected.**

2. The original provision was to accept modifications of the system but utilise the same silencer. This was relaxed to allow an alternative silencer, which is now subject to the criteria in 1 above. The exhaust must terminate in approximately the same position as on the approval/MR.

The diameter of exhaust tubing is not critical and may therefore vary slightly.

Answer Given By: TSB

Date: April 2006

Further Action.

Amendment to Inspection Manual.

