



GUIDELINES FOR SOUND SYSTEMS FOR USE IN LICENSED LONDON TAXIS

Sound Systems in the passenger compartment of licensed London taxis.

All equipment must be approved by the Vehicle Policy Manager, and meet all requirements as regards safety and technical acceptability.

All equipment must be designed, constructed and installed in such a way and in such materials as to present no danger to passengers or driver, including from impact with the equipment in the event of an accident, or danger from the electrical integrity being breached through vandalism, misuse, or wear and tear.

1. A current copyright music license must be obtained from the Performing Rights Society for the cab concerned, and a copy is to be kept in the vehicle and to be made available for inspection whenever the cab is presented for licensing inspection or requested by an authorized officer.
2. The driver must have overall control of the maximum volume.
3. The driver must be able to switch off the speakers in the drivers compartment independently from those in the carriage compartment.
4. There must be a control in the passenger compartment that will enable the passenger to adjust the sound level incrementally from zero to a pre-set maximum.
5. Maximum output of the amplifier must not be rated at more than 10 watts rms per channel. Separate amplifiers or any other system which in the opinion of the Vehicle Policy Manager can produce excessively intrusive sound will not be allowed.
6. No more than two speakers are to be fitted in the passenger compartment, maximum diameter 100mm.
7. If speakers are fitted to both the front and rear of the cab then the system must be so designed, so that only one "programme" can be played in the cab at any time.
8. All equipment must be securely fitted, and hard wired in such a manner where wiring can not be interfered with, or chafe.

9. The speaker magnetism must not interfere with the operation of any safety devices such as seat belt locking mechanism or automatic door locks.
10. Where a driver / passenger intercom system is fitted, it is highly desirable from an operational and safety point of view that, when the intercom is in use, the entertainment sound system is automatically muted to zero.
11. It is not intended, nor will it be permitted, that this concession to fit passenger compartment sound systems be used as an advertising medium of any kind. Audible advertisements are permitted only if they are received via a regular broadcast from a public radio station.
12. There must be no CD or audio cassettes in the carriage compartment. Any such equipment must be of the automatic type and kept elsewhere on the cab.
13. There must be approved instructions available in the passenger compartment.
14. Each system must be approved by the Vehicle Policy Manager before installation.
15. The audio material must be of a standard that would be acceptable to the TfL policy on advertising standards, (which can be found on the TfL/Taxi and Private Hire Directorate (TPH Directorate) websites), Broadcasting Standards Council and the Radio Authority for broadcasting to all age groups, i.e. it must not contain sexually explicit lyrics, profanities or any other language or sounds likely to cause offence.

If the TPH Directorate receives information that the above equipment is causing a conflict between driver and passengers or the general public then the above approval may be withdrawn.