

Exemption for trailers with sliding bogies"/ extendible trailers

This exemption says:

18. Trailers with sliding bogies. Exempt if it is not possible for practical reasons to comply with requirements as to the fitting of sideguards when the trailer is in the extended position. (Full compliance is only required in the fully closed position).

A trailer with a sliding bogey is also called an "extendible trailer". Only the courts can give a definitive interpretation of a matter of law but the Order Making Authoritative (Transport for London, London Councils and Heathrow Airport Limited) have agreed to provide the following as guidance as to how the above "Extendible Trailer Exemption" ("the exemption") should currently be interpreted and applied:

1. The exemption only applies to extendible trailers and only to that element of the trailer that extends beyond its minimum position i.e. when it is not in the fully "closed" position. That element is referred to as the "extension".
2. When the trailer is in its fully closed position then the trailer must comply with all the applicable requirements of regulation 51 (4) and (5) of the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 (SI 1986/1078 as amended), including the dimensional requirements listed in regulation 51 (5)(d) to (g).
3. When the trailer is in an "open" position (i.e. extended to a length greater than its minimum) then the extension need not comply with regulation 51 (5)(d) to (g) as it is recognised that it is currently not practicable to do so.

The Order Making Authorities will keep the position under review in light of future technical advances.