



VEHICLE EQUIPMENT SAFETY COMMISSION

Regulation VESC-17

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF MOPEDS

Approved July 1977

This copy provided by AMECA, Inc.
1101 15th St. N.W. Suite 607
Washington, D.C. 20005
www.ameca.org

VEHICLE EQUIPMENT SAFETY COMMISSION

Regulation VESC V-17

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF MOPEDS

Approved July, 1977

VESC-17 Committee Members

Lt. C. R. Townsend
Director
Motor Vehicle Inspection Division
Department of Public Safety
Oklahoma

Lowell Schellhase
Supervisor
Department of Public Safety
Iowa

Earl M. Sweeney
Assistant Director
Motor Vehicles Division
New Hampshire

Raymond Weatherbee
N.H. State Police
New Hampshire

Thomas E. Widerman
Liaison Officer
Equipment Approval/Product Safety
Maryland

MEMBERS—EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Public Hearing and Approval Board)

CHAIRMAN

George Stevens
Driver & Vehicle Administration
Michigan Department of State
Michigan

Immediate Past Chairman
Ejner J. Johnson
Administrator
Motor Vehicle Administration
Maryland

Vice Chairman
Dennis G. Eisnach
Superintendent
Division of Highway Patrol
Department of Public Safety
South Dakota

Secretary-Treasurer
Dr. Basil Y. Scott
Deputy Commissioner
Department of Motor Vehicles
New York

Region I
Eugene G. Petit, Jr.
Administrator
Division of Motor Vehicles
Rhode Island

Region I
Roy M. Terry
Safety Officer
Department of State Police
Virginia

Region III
James O. Peterson
Administrator
Division of Motor Vehicles
Wisconsin

Region IV
Philip Thorneycroft
Assistant Director
Department of Transportation
Arizona

Dairl Bragg
Executive Director
Washington D.C.

Table of Contents

Purpose.....	1
Scope.....	1
Definitions.....	1
Manufacturers Certification.....	2
Brakes.....	2
Tires and Wheel Rims.....	2
Steering.....	2
Fuel Systems	3
Exhaust Systems.....	4
Seat or Saddle.....	4
Chain and Belt Guards.....	4
Vehicle Stand.....	4
Controls.....	4
Audible Signaling Device.....	5
Width.....	5
Lighting Equipment.....	5
Headlamp Indicator Light.....	5
Equipment Approval.....	5

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF MOPEDS

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1. To establish performance and equipment requirements for the manufacturer, sale and safe operation of a moped for use on public highways; and to furnish administrators with a guide for registration eligibility where applicable and continued conformity with this regulation.

2. SCOPE:

- 2.1. This regulation sets forth maximum performance and minimum equipment requirements for safe operation of a moped applicable to those mopeds manufactured on and after the effective date of this regulation
- 2.2. A jurisdiction may grant exceptions from this requirements of this regulation or permit or require the use of other equipment of devices

3. DEFINITIONS:

- 3.1. Moped-- means a motor driven cycle equipped with two or three wheels, foot pedals to permit muscular propulsion and an independent power source providing a maximum of two brake horse-power. If a combustion engine is used, the maximum piston or rotor displacement shall be 3.05 cubic inches (50 cubic centimeters) regardless of the number of chambers in such power source. The power source shall be capable of propelling the vehicle, unassisted, as a speed not to exceed thirty (30) miles and hour (48.28 Kilometers per hour) on a level road surface and is equipped with a power drive system that functions director or automatically only, not requiring clutching or shifting by the operator after the drive system is engaged.

- 3.2. Manufacturer-- means any person engaged in the manufacturing of assembling of mopeds or moped equipment, including any person importing mopeds or moped equipment for sale or resale. (Person means every natural person, firm, copartnership, association, or corporation)
- 3.3. Moped Equipment-- means any system, part or component of a moped as originally manufactured or any similar part or component manufactured or sold as replacement or improvement of such system, part or component or as an accessory or addition to the moped.
- 3.4. FMVSS--means Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.
 - 3.4.1. Copies of all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards referenced in their regulation are available and may be secured from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20902.

4. MANUFACTURERS CERTIFICATION:

- 4.1. The manufacturer shall provide a certification of fact to the appropriate state agency that a moped or a class of mopeds is manufactured to comply with the performance and equipment requirements of this regulation.
- 4.2. The manufacturer of a moped propulsion device shall certify that the propulsion device will not exceed a maximum of two (2) Brake Horsepower. The maximum Brake Horsepower Rating shall be legibly and permanently labeled or inscribed in clear view on the propulsion device.

5. BRAKES:

- 5.1. Every moped shall be equipped with a brake system in compliance with FMVSS 122 (Motorcycle Brake Systems)

6. TIRES AND WHEEL RIMS:

- 6.1. Tires shall have an inflated width size of 1.75 inches (44.5 millimeters) minimum and shall have an overall inflated diameter of nineteen (19) inches (482.6 millimeters) minimum when mounted to the rim of the wheel.

7. STEERING:

- 7.1. The moped steering system shall provide the operator with a means of safely controlling vehicle direction.
- 7.2. Full left and full right turns of the steering system shall not result in interference with any control cables, wiring or mounted components including the propulsion device.
- 7.3. Handlebars--Shall not be obstructed in movement between full right and left turns stops, nor shall any part of the handlebar be more than 15 inches (381 millimeters) above that portion of the seat occupied by the rider when the seat is fully depressed.
- 7.4. Handgrips-- Handlebars shall be equipped with handgrips designed to insure a firm non-slip grip for the operators hands

8. FUEL SYSTEMS:

- 8.1. All moped propulsion units using liquid fuel shall have all fuel system components, including the tank, pump, tubing, hoses, clamps, etc., securely fastened so as not to interfere with vehicle operation and shall be designed to prevent leakage when the vehicle is in its normal operating attitude. Fuel lines shall be positioned in a manner to prevent their contact with the engine cylinder head, manifold, exhaust system or other high temperature surfaces, or moving components. The fuel system shall be adequately vented and provided with a fuel shut-off valve in compliance with FMVSS-123 (Motorcycle Controls and displays).

9. EXHAUST SYSTEMS:

7

- 9.1. Mopeds shall be equipped with an exhaust system, where applicable, incorporating a muffler or other mechanical device for the purpose of reducing engine noise. Cutouts and by-passes in the exhaust are prohibited. The system shall be designed to prevent leakage and all components shall be securely attached and located so as not to interfere with the operation of the moped. Shielding shall be provided to prevent inadvertent bodily contact with the exhaust system during normal operation.

10. SEAT OR SADDLE:

- 10.1 Seat or Saddle--a seat or saddle securely attached to the vehicle, shall be provided for the use of the operator. The seat or saddle shall not be adjustable to less than twenty-five (25) inches (635 millimeters) above a level road surface when measured to the lowest point on top of the empty seat or saddle cushion. The seat or saddle adjustment locking device shall prevent relative movement of the seat from its selected and secure position under all normal vehicle operating conditions. The seat shall be located such that any part of the handlebar is not more than 15 inches (381 millimeters) above that portion of the seat occupied by the rider when the seat is fully depressed.

11. CHAIN AND BELT GUARDS:

- 11.1. Any drive chain, drive belt or rotating component shall be equipped with a guard or covering device sufficient to prevent bodily contact and snagging of clothing.

12. VEHICLE STAND:

- 12.1. All mopeds designed with two wheels shall be equipped with a retracting stand, in compliance with FMVSS-123 (Motorcycle Controls and Displays).

13. CONTROLS:

- 13.1. All moped operation controls and displays shall be in compliance with FMVSS-123 (Motorcycle Controls and Displays).

14. AUDIBLE SIGNALLING DEVICE:

14.1. Every Moped shall be equipped with at least one (1) audible signaling device, activated by pushing a self-returning device located on the left handlebar.

15. WIDTH:

15.1. Mopeds shall have a width no greater than 32 inches (812.8 millimeters).

16. LIGHTING EQUIPMENT:

16.1. All required lighting equipment shall be in compliance with FMVSS-108 (Lamps, Reflective Devices, and Associated Equipment--Passenger Cars, Multi-purpose Passenger Vehicles, Trucks, Trailers, Buses and Motorcycles).

17. HEADLAMP INDICATOR LIGHT:

17.1. If a multiple beam headlamp is used, a headlamp beam indicator light shall be provide and be in compliance with FMVSS-123 (Motorcycle Controls and Displays).

18. EQUIPMENT APPROVAL:

18.1. Any equipment specified or optionally installed shall require a certificate of compliance with this regulation issued by the manufacturer. The head of the designated agency of the State Government may issue a certificate of approval to the requesting manufacturer. The term "Head of Designated Agency" shall mean the State Government approval authority, or appointed or designated agent.

V	E
S	C