Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure Baden-Württemberg Stuttgart, 26.09.2012

Issue of stickers to drivers of foreign vehicles

Obligation incumbent on drivers of foreign vehicles of affixing stickers in low emission zones

As well as domestic vehicles, vehicles with a foreign registration (foreign vehicles) also require a sticker for entering low emission zones in Germany. Measures to limit traffic circulation, like the prohibition of road travel in low emission zones, form part of the applicable regulations of traffic law, with which all drivers should be familiar and which they are obliged to observe. The obligation of affixing a sticker, on the other hand, only applies to vehicles entering low emission zones.

Allocation of stickers to foreign vehicles

Vehicles with a foreign registration will be allocated to an emissions group in the light of the European exhaust emissions standard on which the vehicle's registration is based, in so far as this may be determined on the basis of the driver's documents or by any other documentary evidence. If this is not possible, the issue of stickers to foreign vehicles will be subject to a simplified procedure, whereby the original registration date of the vehicle (cf. § 6 of the 35th ordinance on the Federal Immission Control Act) is taken as definitive. As follows:

European emission standard	Emissions group	Passenger cars and light commercial vehicles up to 3.5 tons with first registration:	Light and heavy commercial vehicles in excess of 3.5 tons with first registration:	Sticker
Diesel engine				
Euro 1 or older	1	before 01.01.1997	before 01.10.1996	None
Euro 2	2	from 01.01.1997 up to 31.12.2000	from 01.10.1996 up to 30.09.2001	Red
Euro 3	3	from 01.01.2001 up to 31.12.2005	from 01.10.2001 up to 30.09.2006	Yellow
Euro 4 or better	4	from 01.01.2006	from 01.10.2006	Green
Petrol or Otto engine				
Before Euro 1 (without 3-way catalyst)	1	before 01.01.1993		None
Euro 1 or better	4	from 01.01.1993		Green

Vehicles that have been retrofitted with a particle filter may be allocated to a higher emissions group, provided that a sufficiently powerful particle filter has been installed.

Points of issue for stickers

Keepers of both domestic and foreign vehicles may obtain stickers in Baden-Württemberg from the vehicle licensing authorities of urban and district councils, from the technical standards authorities TÜV, DEKRA and GTÜ and from garages authorised to test exhaust emissions (of which there are now more than 5,600). The stickers may be purchased anywhere in Germany, and are valid throughout the Federal Republic. The sticker remains valid for an unlimited period unless the vehicle's licence plate should be changed.

Ordering stickers for foreign vehicles before the start of a trip

Drivers of foreign vehicles can also order stickers by post, by fax or over the internet. For this purpose a copy or scan of the vehicle registration documents or of a corresponding official document must be supplied, showing the licence plate number, the date of first time registration and the type of vehicle (diesel engine / petrol engine, passenger car / lorry). Documentary evidence of the retrofitting of a particle filter, and the resulting emission values, must likewise be supplied. An official attestation of the documents is not necessary. Drivers are recommended to use the attached form, accompanied by the documentary evidence referred to above.

The technical standards authorities can supply the stickers if approached directly online, at the following websites:

Dekra:
German: www.dekra.de/umweltzonen
English: www.dekra.de/environmentalzones

TÜV:
www.tuev-sued.de/feinstaubplaketten-versand

GTÜ:
http://feinstaub.gtue.de/international/

Foreign tourists may also obtain the stickers from a number of authorised hotels when making a room reservation. Hotels taking part in the scheme will obtain stickers for their guests from one of the official issuing authorities.

Information about low emission zones for keepers of foreign cars

Low emission zones where traffic circulation is restricted are in force not just in German cities like Berlin, Cologne, Hanover, Stuttgart and Mannheim, but also in other European cities, including London, Milan and Stockholm.

The German Federal Ministry for the Environment provides an overview of low emission zones in Germany on its website www.umweltbundesamt.de/umweltzonen/. Keepers of foreign vehicles may also obtain information about traffic restrictions in Germany from the websites of the ministries of the federal states where low emission zones apply, from the websites of the responsible municipal councils and environmental authorities or those of the technical standards organisations TÜV, DEKRA and GTÜ. They can also obtain advice from the automobile clubs or by contacting the above-mentioned authorities and organisations directly.

Sticker for a vehicle registered in a country other than Germany

Vehicle information

The sticker is normally issued based on the information contained in the vehicle documents.
However, certain foreign vehicle documents may not provide all the information required.
In order to facilitate obtaining the sticker, you can enter the required information in this form and submit it to a point of issue for stickers along with the vehicle documents.

This form does not replace the vehicle documents, which must always be submitted.

What kind of fuel does your vehicle require?

Petrol ☐

Diesel ☐

Date of first registration

Day ☐☐ Month ☐☐ Year ☐☐☐☐

Vehicle type

Passenger car ☐ Commercial vehicle ☐

Gross vehicle weight

≤ 3.5 t ☐ > 3.5 t ☐

Particulate abatement device

Was the vehicle equipped with a particulate abatement device (particle filter)? This must be documented by means of an entry in the vehicle documents, a manufacturer certificate or retrofit certificate. This documentation must specify the emission values achieved with the device.

Particulate abatement device: Yes ☐ No ☐

Particulate abatement device manufacturer: _____

Certifying authority: _____