

WFAANZ key contributor to NSW VLT inspection rules

The situation

WFAANZ was contacted by Transport for NSW (TfNSW) for industry consultation regarding its review of *Light Vehicle Safety Check Standards* that are used by AIS examiners when performing VLT checks on light vehicles.

TfNSW had proposed a review of the five percentage point tolerance and was considering a shift to using the tolerance of the specific light meter in use.

WFAANZ was also asked for input on the materials that communicate VLT laws to vehicle owners; and on the wording of Rule 105.03 of *Rules for Authorised Inspection Stations*, pertaining to window film.

In response, WFAANZ submitted an industry position statement petitioning TfNSW to maintain the five percentage point tolerance. A further submission detailed WFAANZ recommendations on communicating the rules.

The result

After detailed consultation and representation from WFAANZ, TfNSW has decided to retain the five percentage point tolerance which protects a clear, simple and fair approach to checking aftermarket window film in NSW.

A suite of materials have been carefully produced by TfNSW and WFAANZ. In clearly and simply outlining VLT rules and testing procedures, these materials will mitigate confusion and dispute, thereby safeguarding the interests and livelihoods of NSW auto film installers.



Five percentage point tolerance in NSW

Light Vehicle Safety Check Standards, Rules for Authorised Inspection Stations, page 19:

“The light meter may have up to a 5% measuring inaccuracy. A vehicle may be accepted if the readings are up to 5% lower than the minimum light transmittance.”

For example, if the light meter reading of a rear window with applied film was 15%, that window would be found to be within the legal VLT limit.

For passenger vehicles:

Window Position	Minimum light transmittance	Vehicle NOT TO BE REJECTED unless light meter reads LESS than
Windscreen	70%	65%
Side windows	35%	30%
Rear windows*	20%	15%

*if the vehicle does not have a passenger side rear vision mirror, then the rear windows must have a minimum light transmittance of 35%

For goods vehicles:

Window Position	Minimum light transmittance	Vehicle NOT TO BE REJECTED unless light meter reads LESS than
Windscreen	70%	65%
Side windows	35%	30%
Rear windows*	No limit for the rear windows of goods vehicles with at least 4 wheels, or at least 3 wheels and a GCM of more than 1 tonne.	

*if the vehicle does not have a passenger side rear vision mirror, then the rear windows must have a minimum light transmittance of 35%

Light Vehicle Safety Check Standards, Rules for Authorised Inspection Stations, page 20:
Reasons for rejection

LINKS

Light Vehicle Safety Check Standards, Rules for Authorised Inspection Stations, TfNSW
How do I know my windows and window tint are legal in NSW, TfNSW
Automotive window film VLT regulations webpage, WFAANZ

WFAANZ

+61 2 9160 4736
info@wfaanz.org.au
wfaanz.org.au