

Annex F:

Tachograph and Drivers Hours Rules

UK

The European Union (EU) drivers' hours (Tachograph) rules changed on 11 April 2007.

Why the rules changed?

The EU wanted to clarify and simplify the rules in order to make them easier to apply and enforce.

What are the changes to the rules?

The new rules are summarised below.

	New rules from 11 April 2007
Breaks from driving	Total of 45 minutes break to be taken at or before the end of 4.5 hours continuous or cumulative driving. The 45 minute break may be split into two breaks, the first at least 15 minutes long, the second at least 30 minutes long
Daily rest	11 hours rest in the 24 hour period, which begins at the end of the last daily/weekly rest period. May be reduced to a minimum of 9 hours no more than three times between weekly rests. Reductions no longer require compensation
Split daily rest	Split daily rest can be taken in two periods, the first period being at least 3 hours long and the second at least 9 hours long
Weekly rest	45 hours can be reduced to 24 hours at base or away from base. Reductions must be compensated by the end of the third week following the week of reduction. A full regular 45-hour rest is required in any two consecutive weeks
Double manning daily rest concession	Within 30 hours of the end of a daily/weekly rest period, when a vehicle is multi-manned, each driver must have at least 9 hours rest
Ferry/train daily rest concession	A regular (at least 11 hour) daily rest may be interrupted not more than twice by other activities not exceeding one hour in total. During the rest you must have access to a bunk or couchette

Are there any other changes?

There are some other changes to the definitions in the regulations and some new responsibilities. The main changes are summarised below.

Off-road driving

The new rules include any journeys done partly on public roads and partly off public roads as 'carriage by road'. This means that when you drive a vehicle on both public and private roads, all of the driving must be counted as such. So vehicles delivering to private sites will not be able to count the site driving as 'other work'.

Recording other work on driving and non-driving days

You must record all other work, including any work for other employers, for driving days and non-driving days within any fixed week where you have driven a vehicle in-scope of the Tachograph rules. You must also record any periods of availability and should record rest or break periods taken during this time. We will advise you how we will be asking you to record this in due course.