

NSW relaxes VLT laws

In a major breakthrough for the NSW auto tint industry, the minimum VLT allowance for windows behind the driver has been reduced in accordance with the NTC recommendations of 2016.

The limit for after market window film on rear windows in NSW passenger vehicles is now 20% VLT. *The Road Transport (Vehicle Registration) Regulation 2017*, schedule 2, rule 44, subrule (6a), states that, "If a motor vehicle is fitted with at least 1 rear vision mirror to each side of the vehicle, the motor vehicle's rear glazing may be coated to achieve a luminous transmittance of at least 20%."

The previous limit was 35% VLT.

This document is a summary only. For the regulations please refer to *The Road Transport (Vehicle Registration) Regulation 2017 fact sheet* available on the AUTO LAWS page of the WFAANZ website, or this page of the government's NSW legislation website - www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/regulation/2017/451/sch2. WFAANZ advises all tinters review this information to fully understand the new requirements.

Getting it clear

Rear glazing: refers to "...glazing used in a window or interior partition of the motor vehicle located behind the driver in the normal driving position."

Windscreens: As was always the case, window film that reduces the VLT of glazing must not be applied to the windscreen of a motor vehicle. However, the area above the highest point of the windscreen wiper arc or the upper 10% of the windscreen can have applied window film.

Driver windows: a 35% VLT limit for after market window film still applies to the driver and passenger side windows.

Goods vehicles: If a vehicle is designed primarily for the carriage of goods, is fitted with at least one rear vision mirror to each side of the vehicle, **and** has at least 4 wheels or at least 3 wheels and a GVM of more than 1 tonne - its rear glazing may be coated to achieve a luminous transmittance of 0% or more.

Reflectance: motor vehicle glazing that has been coated to reduce its VLT must not have a reflectance of more than 10%.

Privacy glass: refers to the glass supplied by the vehicle manufacturer with an existing level of tint. The 20% and 35% VLT allowances cover the combination of glass and film. Installers must be aware of the VLT of the privacy glass before they apply film, to ensure the combination of glass + film does not exceed the limit.

Older vehicles: rule 44 as outlined here may not apply to motor vehicles that were first registered before 1 August 1994, whether or not they were registered in New South Wales. Check the regulations when dealing with these older vehicles.

ADR: the rules set out in the second and third editions of the ADR do not apply to after market window film.

WFAANZ

Suite 1, Level 1, Building 1
20 Bridge Street
PYMBLE NSW 2073
02 9498 2768
info@wfaanz.org.au
www.wfaanz.org.au