

Information on exemptions to the ban on driving heavy goods vehicles on Sundays in Germany

In order to facilitate the transportation, by heavy vehicles of 7.5t or more, of materials required for setting up and dismantling exhibitions, we have compiled this information on how to obtain an exemption to the ban on driving heavy goods vehicles of 7.5t or more on Sundays pursuant to § 30 Clause 3 of the German Road Traffic Regulations (Straßenverkehrsordnung - StVO).

§ 30 Clause 3 of the German Road Traffic Regulations (Straßenverkehrsordnung - StVO) states that between 0 a.m. and 10 p.m. on Sundays and public holidays there is a ban on driving heavy goods vehicles with a gross vehicle weight of 7,5t and more, and trucks/lorries with trailers, irrespective of their maximum permissible gross mass.

At the transport ministers' conference on 10/09/2007 – 10/10/2007 in Merseburg, an agreement was reached that the aforesaid § 30 Clause 3 of the Road Traffic Regulations shall not apply to

...vehicles in which the transported goods are part of the inventory, such as exhibition-, film- and television vehicles and fun-fair wagons/trucks (including fun-fair wagons/trucks with trailers).

Also, pursuant to § 46 Clause 1 No. 7 of the Road Traffic Regulations (StVO), individual or permanent exemptions can be granted for certain types of transportation, for example

- 2.5 *Equipment and exhibits as well as foodstuffs for trade fairs, exhibitions, markets, festivals, cultural or sporting events*
- 2.6 *Journeys of vintage heavy goods vehicles (classic vehicles) to trade fairs, exhibitions, markets, festivals, cultural or sporting events*
- 2.10 *Empty runs and return runs in connection with types of travel stated in 2.1 – 2.9.*

To file an application for an exemption permit, the following documents are required:

- *written application stating reasons (including details of the goods to be transported) and proof that it is necessary to transport these during the time for which the ban applies*
- *motor vehicle registration document (Kraftfahrzeugschein) and/or licence certificate part 1 (Zulassungsbescheinigung Teil 1); for vehicles registered in countries other than Germany, and in which the maximum permissible total mass is not entered in the licence certificate, an appropriate official certificate must be presented*

The goods to be transported under the exemption permit are to be listed in detail as far as possible. Additional load items are permitted up to a maximum of 10% of the total load.

Pursuant to § 46, 47 Road Traffic Regulations (StVO), the road traffic authority responsible for the district where the goods are loaded or for the district where the applicant has his main office or his subsidiary office is responsible for handling applications and issuing permits.

In the case of cross-border transportation, applications are to be made to the road traffic authority responsible for the border crossing point.