

# Motor vehicles and accessories

This fact sheet outlines the Australian Communications and Media Authority's (the ACMA's) regulatory arrangements for suppliers of motor vehicles and motor vehicle related products.

## EMC regulatory requirements

The ACMA's electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) regulatory arrangements cover a wide range of electrical and electronic devices to minimise the risk of emissions from causing interference to the radiofrequency spectrum. Under these arrangements, suppliers in Australia must ensure their products meet mandatory requirements of a relevant EMC standard.

The Federal Chamber of Automotive Industries (FCAI) and the Truck Industry Council (TIC) administer the following Codes of Practices that regulate broadband and narrowband emissions.

- > FCAI code: 'Voluntary Code of Practice for Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) of Motor Vehicles'
- > TIC code: 'Voluntary Code of Practice for Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC)'

The ACMA has an agreement with both the FCAI and the TIC such that:

- 1) vehicles imported and supplied by its members that are
- 2) compliant with all the broadband and narrowband emission standards as set out in their respective Codes of Practices

are exempt from the requirements as set out in the [EMC Labelling Notice](#).

Under this agreement, FCAI and TIC members that are fully compliant with their respective EMC code of practice do not have to C-Tick label their products and maintain ACMA compliance folders for products supplied as an integral part of a vehicle. Compliance with the requirements of an applicable EMC standard is also not required.

If an FCAI or TIC member supplies an after-market accessory that is not supplied as an integral part of a vehicle, the product must be labelled and compliance documentation maintained in accordance with the ACMA's EMC regulatory arrangements.

An identical replacement for a part supplied as an integral part of a vehicle may be exempt from these requirements. This exemption applies only to a replacement assembly or component having identical specifications and radiofrequency emission characteristics as the assembly or component it replaces.

**Suppliers who are not members of FCAI or TIC** must ensure their products comply with an applicable EMC standard and that these products are labelled in accordance with the ACMA's EMC regulatory arrangements. In event of a random audit, the ACMA will examine the compliance documentation.

**The EMC Standard AS/NZS CISPR 12 applies to vehicles propelled by an internal combustion engine, electrical means or both, as well as motor boats propelled by an internal combustion engine, electrical means or both—not just spark ignition engines.**

If a product can be installed in a vehicle as well as powered by the general electricity supply, it may have to meet an additional EMC standard. An example of such a product may be audio equipment, which is an automotive accessory as well as for domestic use. The relevant EMC standard for this audio equipment may be EN 55013 or CISPR 13 or AS/NZS CISPR 13.

## Radiocommunications regulatory requirements

While the ACMA's [EMC regulatory arrangements](#) cover emissions from unintentional radiators, the ACMA's radiocommunications regulatory arrangements cover intentional radiators.

Under the radiocommunications regulatory arrangements, radiocommunications products not supplied as an integral part of a vehicle must be labelled and compliance documentation

maintained by the supplier. A product supplied as an identical replacement for a part supplied as an integral part of a vehicle may be exempt from these requirements.

The ACMA has exempted FCAI members from meeting the labelling and compliance folder requirements for compliance level 1 radiocommunications products. An example of a level 1 radiocommunications product is the keyless entry system supplied within new cars. Under the exemption, the supplier of a level 1 product is not required to keep a compliance folder or label the product if it is supplied as an integral part of a vehicle.

Also under this exemption, the supplier of a level 2 or level 3 radiocommunications product is not required to label the product when it is supplied as an integral part of a vehicle. However, a compliance folder for a level 2 or level 3 radiocommunications product is required to be maintained by a supplier.

**This agreement does not exempt FCAI members from having to ensure that their radiocommunications products meet an applicable ACMA standard.**

It is important to note that an ACMA standard is made mandatory under section 162 of the *Radiocommunications Act 1992* and the mandated standard may adopt in whole, amend or supplement a relevant Standards Australia/New Zealand (AS/NZS) standard to prescribe performance requirements. Therefore, to understand which requirements are mandatory, a section 162 standard must be read in conjunction with the applicable AS/NZS standard.

For low-power keyless entry and anti-theft radiocommunications products, the applicable ACMA section 162 standard may be:

> Radiocommunications (Short Range Devices) Standard 2004.

This ACMA s162 standard adopts parts of Australian Standard AS/NZS 4268 Radio equipment and systems – Short range devices – Limits and methods of measurement

For low power products covered by the above standard, radiocommunications regulatory compliance level 1 applies.

All suppliers in Australia who are not FCAI members must meet the normal radiocommunications compliance requirements for documentation and labelling.

[Section 162 standards for radiocommunications products](#) are on the ACMA website.

Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand standards are available from [Standards Australia](#) or [Standards New Zealand](#).

## More information

For more information on the [EMC regulatory arrangements](#) and the radiocommunications regulatory arrangements contact [comply.label@acma.gov.au](mailto:comply.label@acma.gov.au)

The ACMA has [fact sheets](#) on a range of topics.

*Please note: this document is intended as a guide only and should not be relied on as legal advice or regarded as a substitute for legal advice in individual cases.*

CANBERRA  
Purple Building Benjamin Offices  
Chan Street  
Belconnen ACT 2617  
PO Box 78  
Belconnen ACT 2616  
T: 02 6219 5555  
F: 02 6219 5200

MELBOURNE  
Level 44, Melbourne Central Tower  
360 Elizabeth Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000  
PO Box 13112 Law Courts  
Melbourne VIC 8010  
T: 03 9963 6800  
F: 03 9963 6899

SYDNEY  
Level 15, Tower 1 Darling Park  
201 Sussex Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
PO Box Q500  
Queen Victoria Building NSW 1230  
T: 02 9334 7700  
F: 02 9334 7799