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Government Decree on Vehicle Registration

(1598/1995; amendments up to 255/2005 included)

Chapter 1

General provisions

Section 1 (1246/2002) Scope of application

- 1. This Decree shall apply to the registration of vehicles referred to in Chapter 2 of the Vehicle Act (1090/2002).
- 2. Provisions on motor vehicle tax to be paid of a motor vehicle and tax-free use of a motor vehicle in traffic are laid down in the Act on Motor Vehicle Tax (1482/94).
- 3. Provisions on the registration of motor vehicles and keeping of the register in the Region of Åland are laid down separately.
- 4. Provisions of this Decree shall apply to the registration of military vehicles unless otherwise provided by decrees of the Ministry of Defence by virtue of the Vehicle Act.

(Subsection 5 has been repealed by the Decree 1246/2002)

Section 2 (790/2004) Definitions

For the purposes of this Decree:

- a) *register* means a vehicular and driver data register referred to in the Vehicular and Driver Data Register Act (541/2003);
- b) *contract-based registrar* means a contract-based registrar referred to in section 3 in the Act on Registration Operations (1100/1998);
- c) party carrying out the registration means the Vehicle Administration and a competent contract-based registrar referred to in Section 6 of the Act referred to in paragraph b;
 - d) first registration means the first registration of a vehicle in Finland;
- e) *prior notification* means reporting the information about a new vehicle to the Vehicle Administration before the first registration;
- f) *re-registration* means registration of a vehicle once registered in Finland and removed from the register thereafter;
- g) *modification registration* means entering amendments to the register concerning a vehicle already entered into the register by the party carrying out the registration;

- h) registration notice means a notice about information required by the first or reregistration of a vehicle as well as removal from the register and other amendments in the registration information;
- i) *registration certificate* means a document issued by the party carrying out the registration, which proves that the vehicle has been registered and whose technical section presents the technical information of the vehicle and whose notice section is meant for the purpose of registration notice;
- j) certificate of conformity means a document issued by the vehicle manufacturer proving that a vehicle of category M_1 conforms to a vehicle type approved in accordance with the requirements of EC Council Directive 70/156/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the type-approval of motor vehicles and their trailers; and that a vehicle of category L conforms to the requirements of Directive 2002/24/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to the type-approval of two or three-wheel motor vehicles and repealing Council Directive 92/61/EEC; and that an agricultural tractor conforms to the requirements of Council Directive 74/150/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the type-approval of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors;
- k) *prior notification certificate* means a document issued by the Vehicle Administration, which proves that a prior notification has been given about the vehicle;
- l) *registration number* means a series of letters and numbers issued by the party carrying out the registration for identification of the vehicle;
- m) *registration plate* means a plate with the registration number and possibly a nationality mark on the left side of the plate. The registration plate is to be attached to the vehicle;
- n) date of registration means the date, when the registration notice was left to the party carrying out the registration;
- o) date of entry into service means the date, when the vehicle has passed first registration or registered for the first time abroad, unless other date has been considered to be entered as the true date of registration for a specific reason;
- p) *possessor* means other natural or legal person than the owner, to whom the principal usage of the vehicle has been transferred or to whose usage the vehicle has been conveyed for a period exceeding 30 days on the basis of an agreement;
 - q) transfer sign means a sign with a registration number to be attached to a vehicle;
 - r) EEA country means any county within the European Economic Area;
- s) *certificate of destruction* means a certificate referred to in section 7 of Government Decree on End-of-life Vehicles (581/2004).

Chapter 2 has been repealed by Decree 1117/2003.

Chapter 3 **Prior notice**

Section 5 (1246/2002)

Making a prior notification

- 1. A vehicle manufacturer or representative of a vehicle manufacturer referred to in Section 65 of the Vehicle Act may make a prior notification to the register about a new vehicle, which shall not be presented for a registration inspection in the following cases:
- a) the vehicle is of the categories M_1 , L or T and it has been issued a certificate of conformity; or
 - b) the vehicle is of a model type-inspected in Finland as belonging to small series; or
- c) the vehicle is of another category than M_1 and it is of a model nationally type-inspected in Finland.
- 2. Before a prior notification is made of a vehicle referred to in subsection 1 (a-c), a notification (*type-inspection notification*) comprising at least the technical and other information affecting the amount of car tax shall be made to the Vehicle Administration.

(Subsection 3 has been repealed by the Decree 1246/2002.)

4. Prior notification shall be made through automatic data processing system. A mistake made when making a prior notification can be corrected before the first registration on the basis of a new notification given by the maker of the prior notification.

Section 6 Registration number and prior notification certificate

After a prior notification has been made about a vehicle, it shall be reserved a registration number and the maker of a prior notification shall be delivered registration plates containing the said registration number as well as a prior notification certificate, which has a technical part containing technical information of the vehicle as well as a notification part for the first registration of the vehicle.

Chapter 4 First registration and re-registration

Section 7 (1246/2002) Registration obligation

In order to fulfil the registration obligation issued in section 8 of the Vehicle Act, a notice on first registration or re-registration shall be made about a motor-driven vehicle and a trailer, which may be coupled to it in a way enacted in this Decree.

Section 8 (1334/2004) Exceptions to the registration obligation

Registration obligation does not apply to the following cases:

- a) other cross-country vehicle than a motor sleigh;
- b) a motor-driven working machine constructed or equipped for crop production, harvesting or road maintenance or a tractor constructed to be steered while walking or a similar motor-driven working machine;
- c) a trailer, which is intended to be coupled to a vehicle of category L, a tractor, a motor-driven working machine or a terrain vehicle;
 - d) a towed device; or

- e) a sleigh.
- 2. A vehicle, which has been registered abroad as well as a vehicle equipped with trial plates may be used in Finland without entering it in the register provided that the requirements enacted in sections 46-48, 48 a, 49-51, 51 a, 51 b and 52-56 are met. The same applies to the use of a vehicle with a transfer licence.
- 3. A vehicle registered in the Province of Åland may temporarily be used elsewhere in Finland without making a registration notice.

Section 9 (340/2004) Requirements for a first registration

- 1. Requirements for the first registration of a vehicle are as follows:
- a) clarification will be presented about paid taxes and fees on import, manufacture or yielding of the vehicle;
- b) appropriate written clarification will be presented about the right of ownership of the vehicle:
 - c) the vehicle has a serial number given by the manufacturer, authority or inspection station;
 - d) traffic insurance has been taken for the vehicle;
- e) appropriate prior notification has been made about the vehicle or registration inspection has been performed or an extract from the type register has been issued for it;
- f) vehicle data referred to in chapter 3 of Government Decree on Data in the Vehicular and Driver Data Register (1116/2003) is entered in the register on applicable parts;
- g) when entering in the register a vehicle previously registered in an EEA country other than Finland, a one-part registration certificate shall be submitted; of a two-part certificate both parts shall be submitted.
- 2. It is not necessary to present the information referred to in paragraph a of subsection 1 in the first registration of a vehicle, of which a prior notice has been made to the register.
- 3. Where no part II of a two-part registration certificate issued by a previous registration state referred to in subsection 1(g) has been submitted of a vehicle, the vehicle may be accepted to be entered in the register if the competent registration authorities of the previous registration state deliver through the Finnish Vehicle Administration confirmation that there are no obstacles to the registration. If no one-part registration certificate or part I of a two-part registration certificate has been submitted, the vehicle may, on special grounds, be registered if the competent registration authorities of the previous registration state deliver through the Finnish Vehicle Administration confirmation that there are no obstacles to the registration

Section 10 (1117/2003) Requirements for a re-registration

- 1. Requirements for the re-registration of a vehicle are as follows:
- a) appropriate clarification is presented about the right of ownership of the vehicle;
- b) traffic insurance has been made for the vehicle;
- c) the vehicle has been appropriately inspected;
- d) possible vehicle tax has been paid for the vehicle;

- e) possible motor vehicle tax of the vehicle has been paid;
- f) vehicle information referred to in chapter 3 of Government Decree on information in the vehicle register is entered in the register on applicable parts;
- g) a clarification about the previous registration of the vehicle shall be presented whenever necessary.

(Subsections 2-5 have been repealed by the Decree 1246/2002).

Chapter 5 **Modification registration**

Section 11 (186/1999) Notification obligation

- 1. A registration notice about a modification shall be made about transferring the right of ownership of a vehicle and the change of possessor as well as about other significant changes in the information to be entered into the register on the basis of a registration notice in a way enacted in this Decree.
 - 2. It is however not necessary to make a registration notice in the following cases:
- a) change of the name, address or domicile municipality of a natural person or death of a natural person;
- b) modification of construction or equipment of a vehicle approved in a modification and coupling inspection; nor
- c) such modification of construction or equipment, which does not need to be presented for a modification inspection.

Section 12 (1246/2002)
Requirements for approval of a modification registration

Provisions on the requirements for approval of a modification registration are issued in the Vehicle Act.

(Section 13 has been repealed by the Decree 1246/2002.)

Chapter 6 **Removal of a vehicle from the register**

Section 14 (790/2004) Vehicle to be removed from the register

- 1. A registration notice about removal of a vehicle from the register shall be made in the following cases:
 - a) the registered vehicle has been destroyed;
 - b) the vehicle has been registered abroad;
 - c) the registered vehicle shall no more be used in Finland for other reasons;

- d) the motor sleigh shall no more be used on the road, off-road or on ice; or
- e) the vehicle has been transferred to a collector or pre-processor referred to in section 181 (1) of the Waste Act (1072/1993).
- 2. When making the notice referred to above in subsection 1, registration plates of the vehicle shall be returned. Registration plates of a vehicle claimed on the basis of an insurance due to destruction or damage or reported for removal by the State Treasury or transferred to the ownership of a municipality on the grounds of the Act on Removal and Demolition of Scrap Vehicles (151/75) or transferred to a collector or pre-processor referred to in section 181(1) of the Waste Act need however not be returned, but they shall be confirmedly destroyed.
- 3. The National Board of Customs and the Frontier Guard have the obligation to remove registration plates from a vehicle exported permanently from Finland. Removal of the registration plates shall be reported to the Vehicle Administration, which shall remove the vehicle from the register.

Section 15 Date of removal from the register

The vehicle shall be entered as removed from the register since the date, when the removal notice has been left in, unless there are specific reasons of entering some other date to the register as the actual date of removal.

Section 16 Removal due to disuse

The Vehicle Administration shall remove the vehicle from the register, if neglect of annual inspection or traffic insurance fee or some other matter proves, that the vehicle has not been used in traffic for a minimum period of one year. Grounds and date of the removal shall be decided by the Vehicle Administration

Section 17 (790/2004) Neglect of claiming the registration certificate and registration plates

Delivery of a registration certificate or registration plates to the party carrying out the registration or to the holder of a vehicle inspection operating licence shall be entered into the register. If the holder of a vehicle inspection operating licence is not authorized to enter the data in the register, it shall report the delivery of the registration certificate and registration plates to the Vehicle Administration without delay. In terms of the registration certificate and plates, orders of the Vehicle Administration shall be followed.

Chapter 7

Making a registration notice

Section 18 (790/2004) Registration notice

- 1. The notice referred to above in Chapters 4, 5 and 6 shall be made with the latest issue of a valid:
- a) notice section of the prior notice certificate, if a vehicle of which a prior notice has been given is registered for the first time;
- b) part II of the registration certificate, if a vehicle is entered for modification registration or removed from the register;
- c) part II of the registration inspection certificate, if a vehicle of which no prior notice has been given is registered for the first time;
- d) registration inspection certificate or part II of the registration certificate or, if a vehicle is re-registered; or
- e) extract from the type register, if a vehicle, which has been type-inspected and of which no prior notice has been given and which has not been previously registered elsewhere, is registered for the first time, which may be carried out without a registration inspection.
- 2. If the document referred to above in subsection 1 has disappeared, the notice shall be made with a new document acquired from the authority, which issued the original document.
- 3. Notice concerning a vehicle referred to above in section 14(2) may be made with a removal form confirmed by the Vehicle Administration, with a certificate of destruction, or by using automatic data processing system.
- 4. A registration notice shall be annexed with necessary clarifications about fulfilling the requirements referred to in sections 9, 10 and 12.

Section 19 (790/2004) Issuer of the registration notice

- 1. Owner of the vehicle shall issue a registration notice for the first and re-registration, removal from the register as well as for transferring the right of ownership or increasing the number of possessors or changing the possessor. A registration notice about removal of a vehicle from the register as referred to in section 14(1)(e) of this Decree can be issued by a collector or pre-processor referred to in section 18 1 (1) of the Waste Act. The previous owner of the vehicle may report the name of the new owner to be entered to the register, if the address of the new owner and date when the ownership is yielded are reported at the same time. The previous owner of a motor sleigh, moped or a light quadricycle does however not need to report the address of the new owner. The previous possessor of the vehicle may issue a notice about the removal of his or her possession.
- 2. Other registration notice than that referred to in subsection 1 may also be made by the possessor of the vehicle.
- 3. The registration notice shall be signed by its issuer. The person who yields the vehicle and the person who receives the vehicle shall both sign the notice concerning the transfer of ownership.
- 4. If a vehicle's previous owner has assigned the vehicle to an unknown person, the Vehicle Administration may, after being reliably informed of the assigning and due to the previous owner's notification, enter the information on the assigning in the register. If no reliable account of the date of the assigning is available, the vehicle is considered to be assigned on the date when the Vehicle Administration received the notification and an account, which it considers reliable, of the assigning.

- 1. If owner of a vehicle is reported to be an underage person, who does not have a driver's licence authorising transport of such vehicle, report shall also be given about a possessor using the vehicle, who has a driver's licence authorising transport of the said vehicle at the time the report is made.
- 2. If owner of a vehicle, which can be transported without a driver's licence, is reported to be an underage person, who may not transport the said vehicle with regard to his age, report shall also be given about a possessor using the vehicle, who may transport the vehicle with regard to his age.
- 3. If the owner of a vehicle, which is used in Finland, lives abroad, a possessor who, lives in Finland shall be reported for the vehicle.

Section 21 (340/2004) Reception sites for registration notices and registration plates

- 1. A registration notice shall be left to the party carrying out the registration. Part I of the registration certificate or registration inspection certificate or the technical part of the prior notification certificate shall be presented at the same time. The entry made to part I of the registration certificate or registration inspection certificate or the technical part of the prior notification certificate by the receiver of the notice of issuing a registration notice authorizes, if there are no other obstacles, the use of the vehicle until the arrival of the new registration certificate, however for the maximum period of 30 days only. The Vehicle Administration may enhance the period on request. The party carrying out the registration may issue a temporary certificate, which authorizes the use of the vehicle for a period defined in the certificate.
- 2. When the notice about removal of the vehicle from the register is issued, the recipient shall sign the date of reception of the registration plates to parts I and II of the registration certificate.
- 3. The party carrying out the registration may, regardless of the provisions of subsections 1 and 2 and for special reasons, receive the registration notice, even if the part I of the registration certificate or registration inspection certificate or the technical part of the prior notification certificate was not presented.

Section 22 (340/2004) *Time limit*

- 1. A registration notice shall be issued within seven days of modifications that are to be entered in the register. If the registration certificate is in the possession of the party carrying out the registration for performing an earlier registration, the registration notice shall be issued within 14 days of the output date of the registration certificate entered in the new registration certificate.
- 2. If the owner or possessor of the vehicle has not received a new registration certificate within 30 days of the delivery of the registration notice, the owner or possessor of the vehicle is obliged to ask within seven days from the party carrying out the registration for a new registration certificate to replace the one disappeared during the delivery.

Section 23 (186/1999)

Entering the registration

The party carrying out the registration shall inspect the notice and its appendices. It shall enter the vehicle and modification in the information concerning the vehicle to the register on the basis of the information yielded by the person, who has the notification obligation, when the requirements provided for above in Chapters 4, 5 and 6 are fulfilled. If no prior notification has been given about the vehicle, the party carrying out the registration shall issue a registration number and registration plates for the vehicle during the first registration. A vehicle, which has been removed from the register, shall be issued a registration number during re-registration.

Section 24 (340 /2004) Date of the registration decision

The date when the registration certificate has been delivered or left to be transported by mail shall be regarded as the date of the registration decision.

Section 25 Fastening the registration plates

Registration plates issued for the vehicle may not be fastened to the vehicle, until the registration notice concerning the first registration or re-registration has been left in.

Chapter 8 has been repealed by the Act 1100/1998.

Chapter 9 **Registration certificate**

Section 30 (340/2004)

Issuing a registration certificate

- 1. The party carrying out the registration shall issue to the owner or, with the owner's consent, to the possessor, a registration certificate for a registered vehicle, which contains information about the vehicle as well as about the owner and the possessor as well as part I containing technical information about the vehicle and part II for making a modification notice or a notice of a removal from the register.
- 2. The party carrying out the registration may for justified reasons give a copy of the part I of the registration certificate to be used in traffic for a fixed period. The provisions on presenting the part I of the registration certificate shall apply to presenting the copy.

Section 31 (340/2004) Holding and carrying the registration certificate

The registration certificate shall be held carefully. Part I of the most recently issued registration certificate shall be carried with when using the vehicle in traffic and presented to the traffic

controlling authority on demand. When transporting a trailer or a hired vehicle, either the part I of the registration certificate or its certified copy dated no more than six months earlier shall be carried with.

Section 32 (340/2004) Disappearance of a registration certificate

In order to replace a disappeared or destroyed registration certificate or its part, a new certificate shall be applied for in writing from the party carrying out the registration. A written clarification about the disappearance of the registration certificate or its part shall also be presented.

Chapter 10

Registration plates

Section 33 (186/1999)

Issuing the registration plates

- 1. After a prior notification has been made about the vehicle, registration plates for the vehicle shall be delivered to the maker of the prior notification. In other cases the party carrying out the registration shall issue the registration plates in connection with the first registration and, for a vehicle removed from the register, in connection with the re-registration.
- 2. Two registration plates shall be issued for an automobile and a motor sleigh and one plate for any other type of vehicle. The Vehicle Administration may for specific reasons issue an additional registration plate.

Section 34 (764/2000) Fastening and usage of registration plates

- 1. Registration plates shall be fastened as follows: in an automobile front and rear, an agricultural tractor and a motor-powered working machine front or rear, in a motor sleigh both sides and in other vehicles rear in the places reserved for the plates perpendicularly to the vehicle, in an upright position or with an inclination not exceeding 30 degrees outwards from the lower edge and in such way, that no part or equipment of the vehicle covers it even partially. The registration plate shall whenever necessary be primed or framed so, that it shall not be damaged while using the vehicle. The registration plate may not be bent, cut or covered and no stickers, marks or plates may be attached to it.
- 2. Registration plates shall be fastened through the original holes located in the plates. Heads of the fastening screw shall be painted with the same colour as the background or covered with a plug of the same colour as the background.
- 3. No other registration plates but those, which belong to the vehicle, may be used or fastened in the vehicle, nor such plates or combinations of numbers and letters, which misleadingly resemble a registration plate or registration number, transfer sign or nationality mark of a state.
- 4. Registration plates shall be kept in such condition, that the registration number can be read in traffic without difficulty.

5. The registration plates of an automobile used for licensed goods traffic shall be fastened to a separate yellow framework with raised edges 20 millimetres wide surrounding the plates.

Section 35 (340/2004) Damage or disappearance of registration plates

If a registration plate has been damaged or disappeared, the provisions of section 32 on requesting a new registration certificate shall apply. The party carrying out the registration may by a marking about ordering a new registration plate entered to the part I of the registration certificate issue a right to use, as an exception to the provisions of section 34, another temporary plate with the registration number marked on it for a period not exceeding one month. The Vehicle Administration may enhance the time limit on request.

Section 36 (764/2000)

Content of the registration number and colour of the registration plates

- 1. Registration numbers of the vehicles and colours of the registration plates issued to the vehicles shall be as follows:
- a) a registration plate of an automobile, a vehicle of category L, or a trailer shall have a marking of two or three letters and a maximum of three numbers in black on a white, reflecting background, and a registration plate of an automobile, a vehicle of categories L_{3e} , L_{4e} , L_{5e} , L_{7e} , or a trailer also a nationality mark unless otherwise provided below;
- b) a museum vehicle may be issued registration plates with the registration number referred to in paragraph a in white on black background without a nationality mark;
- c) a registration plate of an official automobile of a foreign diplomatic mission, a consular mission or an office with a similar status as well as of a vehicle of a diplomatic representative, consul or a person in a similar position has letters CD and a marking with a maximum of four numbers prescribed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in white on blue, reflecting background, and in the registration plate of other tax- and duty-free automobiles belonging to the mentioned missions or members of their personnel letter C and a marking with a maximum of five numbers in white on blue, reflecting background;
- d) a vehicle belonging to the President of the Republic may have the Finnish coat of arms instead of registration plates;
- e) a registration plate of a motor sleigh, an agricultural tractor and a motor-powered working machine has a maximum of three letters and three numbers in black on yellow, reflecting background;
- f) on application a vehicle may be issued registration plates, in which the registration number referred to in paragraph a consists of white markings on a black background with no nationality mark, if the vehicle is registered in Finland and it has previously had this type of a registration plate or if an imported vehicle has been taken into use before 1972; registration plates issued by the Vehicle Administration to museum vehicles shall not be issued to other than vehicles registered as museum vehicles. (674/2003)
- 2. A registration plate of an import-registered vehicle has a nationality mark, a registration number consisting of one letter and a maximum of four numbers in black on white, reflecting background with year and month, when the registration time ends in white on red, reflecting background in the right edge.

- 3. A customs plate has one letter, a serial number and letters FIN in red on white, reflecting background.
- 4. A temporary registration plate has the word KOE, one letter and a maximum of three numbers in black on yellow, reflecting background.
- 6. Numbers and letters in the registration plate shall be separated from each other by a hyphen.

Section 36 a (764/2000) Determination of the registration number

- 1. Unless otherwise provided in section 36, a randomly selected registration number will be issued for a vehicle. However, the Vehicle Administration may on application issue a certain registration number (*special mark*) for a vehicle. Registration plates containing a special marking shall be delivered by the party carrying out the registration.
- 2. The vehicle may on application addressed to the party carrying out the registration be issued the same registration number it had previously. This kind of number shall not be considered as a special mark.

Section 37 (764/2000) Nationality mark

- 1. A registration plate of an automobile, motor cycle, trailer and an import-registered vehicle referred to above in section 36, subsection 1, paragraph a shall have a nationality mark in accordance with the specifications of the annex of the Council Regulation (EC) No 2411/98 on the recognition in intra-Community traffic of the distinguishing sign of the Member State in which motor vehicles and their trailers are registered in such a way that the distinguishing sign of the Member State of registration referred to in Article 2, paragraph 1 shall be FIN.
- 2. On application, automobiles, motor cycles and trailers will be given registration plates that do not include a nationality mark referred to in subsection 1. On application these plates may be changed into plates referred to in subsection 1.
- 3. When a national mark required by the International Road Traffic Agreement is used in the vehicle, it shall have black letters FIN on white, oval background. The minimum horizontal diameter of the oval shall be 175 mm and minimum vertical diameter shall be 115 mm. The height of the letters shall be 80 mm and width of the line 10 mm. It is not permitted to attach a flag or any other sign to the nationality mark.

Chapter 11 **Export registration**

Section 38 (1242/1999)
Requirements for export registration

- 1. A vehicle previously unregistered in Finland and subject to registration obligation, which is delivered in Finland and exported from here for usage in another country, may be temporarily registered for export (export registration).
- 2. Other vehicle than that referred to in subsection 1 may also be registered temporarily for transfer transport from Finland to the country of registration as well as for presentation, competition or exhibition of the vehicle abroad or for some other specific reason.
- 3. Unless otherwise provided for by the Vehicle Administration in individual cases, a vehicle to be export registered shall be approved in a registration inspection before the export registration. However, this is unnecessary, if:
 - a) the registration is performed with a prior notification certificate; or
- b) a racing car of a racing category N or A is export registered for the purpose of a European, or higher, championship race and the car holds an appropriate certificate, which states the said category and is issued by a national central organisation registered in Finland for car sports.
- 4. A vehicle to be export registered may be accepted as unfinished in registration inspection for the purpose of equipping it abroad, if the inadequacies do not impair traffic safety during transfer transportation.

Section 39 (1242/1999) Applying for export registration

Export registration for a vehicle shall be applied from the Vehicle Administration. The application shall be annexed on applicable parts with the issues referred to in Sections 9 and 10 and in Section 38, subsection 3, paragraph b as requirements for registration.

Section 40 Export plates and export registration certificate

The Vehicle Administration shall issue special plates (export plates) for an export registered vehicle and a certificate about the registration (export registration certificate). Modifications in the information of the vehicle shall not be entered in the export registration certificate. Provisions of Chapter 10 shall apply on applicable parts to export plates.

Section 41 (449/1997) Period of validity of export registration

- 1. Export registration shall be valid the following year after the registration decision until the end of the month corresponding the one when the decision was made. On application, the period of validity may also be ordered to be shorter. Export registration of a vehicle referred to above in section 38 (2) shall, however, be valid only for the period required by the purpose referred to in that subsection.
- 2. Prior to the export an export-registered vehicle may be used in Finland only for transferring it from the delivery location to the export location or for a journey in connection with the emigration of the owner of the vehicle to the domicile of the owner and thereon further to the export location.
- 3. Notwithstanding subsection 2 an export-registered vehicle may temporarily be used in Finland due to a compelling reason, a regular holiday trip or a comparable short stay, not however, during

the month immediately after the emigration or the month immediately before the immigration. The vehicle may be used on a condition that the documents contain a note, at the request of the owner of possessor of the vehicle, by the customs authorities of the dates of emigration and immigration.

Chapter 12 **Registration for a vehicle mortgage**

Section 42 (1117/2003) Vehicles to be entered in the register

- 1. The following type of a vehicle, which has not been entered in the register for a reason referred to in section 8 of the Vehicle Act, may be entered in the vehicle register for the purposes of vehicle mortgage:
- a) a lorry, a trailer accepted to be coupled to a lorry, a bus or coach, an agricultural tractor and a motor-powered working machine with the requirement, that the dimensions or masses of the vehicles exceed the ones permitted in the road traffic; and
- b) a motor-powered working machine constructed or equipped for harvesting or road maintenance, a tractor or a motor-powered working machine equipped with solid rubber tyres or metal tracks as well as a tractor or a motor-powered working machine intended to be steered while walking.
- 2. Information referred to in chapter 3 of Government Decree on information in the vehicle register is entered in the register on applicable parts.

Section 43 (1246/2002) Appendices to the application

The following documents shall be appended to an application referred to in section 42 to be delivered to the Vehicle Administration:

- a) an inspection certificate, which shows the vehicle type, issued for a registration inspection performed no earlier than three months before;
 - b) an import certificate or manufacturer's certificate about the vehicle; as well as
 - c) clarification about the right of ownership.

Section 44 (1117/2003) Entry in the register

The Vehicle Administration shall enter a vehicle in the register, if there are no deficiencies in the application and the vehicle has not been entered in the register for a reason referred to in section 8 of the Vehicle Act. A registration number and a certificate about registration shall be issued for the vehicle.

Section 45 (1117/2003) Amending and removing the register information

1. In accordance with section 8 of the Vehicle Act, if the purpose of use of a vehicle that is entered in the register for the purpose of mortgage changes, it shall be entered in the register for the

purpose of using it in traffic. In such a case, the provisions of chapters 4-6 must be observed in the registration in applicable parts.

2. The Vehicle Administration may remove a vehicle, which is entered in the register for the purpose of mortgage, from the register, if no removal report has been made about the vehicle within two years after the amortization or expiration of the vehicle mortgage or if no vehicle mortgage has been taken out on the vehicle within two years.

Chapter 13

Using a vehicle with temporary registration plates or transfer licence (1242/1999)

Section 46 Temporary registration plates

- 1. The Vehicle Administration may, on application, issue to a company, an institute or other association, which manufactures, sells or repairs vehicles or operates transport as well as to an institute or association, which is involved in vehicle research, a temporary number certificate, which authorises use of a vehicle in traffic with temporary registration plates.
- 2. A person or body, who has received a temporary number certificate, may use a vehicle with temporary registration plates in traffic in immediate connection with the following activities performed by the receiver of the certificate:
 - a) a test related to research or development of the vehicle or its equipment;
 - b) trial drive or presentation of the vehicle for the purposes of selling the vehicle;
- c) other transfer in immediate connection to manufacture, sales, equipment, repair or inspection of the vehicle.
- 3. Temporary number certificate shall remain valid until the end of calendar year. The certificate shall be renewed annually without a separate application, unless the possessor of the certificate has made a renouncing notice during the validity period of the temporary number certificate or it has been revoked or the Vehicle Administration does not renew it for some specific reason. Payment of the traffic insurance of the vehicle shall act as a requirement for the renewal.
- 4. Provisions of Chapter 4 about the registration plates shall apply on applicable parts to temporary registration plates.

Section 46 a (255/2005) Temporary use of armoured vehicles in traffic

The Vehicle Administration may, on application, issue to an association that industrially manufactures in Finland armoured vehicles equipped with wheels a temporary number certificate referred to in section 46, which authorises temporary use of an armoured vehicle referred to in section 2(5) of the Decree on Military Vehicles (560/1992) in traffic with temporary registration plates for the purposes referred to in section 46(2). An armoured vehicle used in traffic shall be equipped with wheels. In addition, provisions of section 46(3-4) shall apply to the temporary number certificate and temporary registration plate. Provisions of the Ministry of Transport and Communications Decision on Special Transportation and Special Transport Vehicles (1715/1992) shall apply when using an armoured vehicle in traffic.

Section 47 Revocation of a temporary number certificate

The Vehicle Administration may revoke a temporary number certificate, if the vehicle has been used with temporary registration plates against the requirements provided for in this Decree or in connection with issuance of the temporary number certificate or the person the certificate has been issued to has left it unclaimed.

Section 48 (1334/2004) *Transfer licence*

- 1. The party carrying out the registration or the National Board of Customs may, on application, issue a written transfer licence in order to use the vehicle in traffic for the purpose of taking the vehicle into inspection or for the purpose of transfer, presentation, competition or demonstration within the borders of Finland of a vehicle not registered in Finland or for other specific reason of transferring the vehicle. Transfer signs connected to the transfer licence are delivered together with the licence.
- 2. A transfer licence shall be issued, if valid traffic insurance has been taken for the vehicle and decreed motor vehicle tax and vehicle tax have been paid.
- 3. The transfer licence shall be issued for the required time of usage. The certificate may not be issued for a period exceeding seven days without especially weighty reasons. Use for competition shall not be regarded as such reason.
- 4. A vehicle shall not be used by virtue of a transfer licence, if its condition, measures or mass is not fit for traffic.
- 5. If the National Board of Customs has issued a licence to use a vehicle in traffic without paying the due taxes as referred to in subsection 10 of the provisions on the entry into force of the Act (266/2003) amending the Car Tax Act, as it is in the Act 1278/2004, the National Board of Customs may deviate from the provisions of subsection 3 and issue a transfer licence for a maximum period of three months as referred to in the mentioned subsection 10, which notwithstanding the limitations referred to in subsection 1 entitles to use the vehicle in traffic in 2005. If the validity of the licence referred to in the mentioned subsection 10 ends because the licence terms are not met, the right to use the vehicle in traffic by virtue of a transfer licence terminates as well. If it is stated in the registration inspection that the vehicle can cause imminent danger to traffic safety or significant danger to the environment, it shall not be used in traffic by virtue of a transfer licence. When a transfer licence referred to in this subsection is issued, no information regarding the driving route shall be entered in the register.

Section 48 a (1246/2002) Transfer sign

- 1. A transfer sign has a registration number consisting of one or two letters and a maximum of four numbers in red on white background.
- 2. Transfer signs shall be fastened as follows: in an automobile front and rear, an agricultural tractor and a motor-powered working machine front or rear, in a motor sleigh both sides and in other vehicles rear in such a way that the registration number can be read without difficulty. Transfer signs shall not be attached so that they impair the driver's visibility. In other parts, provisions on

registration plates as referred to in section 33, subsection 2 and section 34, subsection 4 shall apply in applicable parts to transfer plates.

3. Transfer signs shall be removed from the vehicle after the validity period of the licence has expired.

Section 49 (1242/1999) Carrying the certificate

The certificate about issuance of the temporary registration plates or transfer licence shall be carried along when using the vehicle in traffic.

Section 50 (1242/1999)
Returning the temporary registration plates

Temporary registration plates as well as the certificate authorising the use of the plates shall be returned to the authority that issued them no later than the second weekday after the validity period of the certificate has expired.

Chapter 14 Using a foreign vehicle in Finland

Section 51 (340/2004)

Vehicles registered in the states that have acceded to the Geneva and Vienna Conventions

- 1. A natural person residing permanently in a state other than Finland, which has acceded to the General Agreement on Road Traffic (Treaty Series 11/59) concluded in Geneva in 1949 or the General Agreement on Road Traffic (Treaty Series 30/86) concluded in Vienna in 1968, may temporarily use in Finland a vehicle of categories M_1 , N_1 , O_1 , O_2 or L or a vehicle comparable to these, which has been registered in the contracting state and which he/she has imported to Finland for personal use, for a maximum period of one year since the date of arrival or, if the customs authorities have on the grounds of Section 32 in Motor Vehicles Taxation Act or the customs legislation of the European Union granted the vehicle exemption from the duty or customs for a fixed period, to the end of that period unless otherwise provided in section 56.
- 2. A community or a natural person, who has a domicile in a state referred to in subsection 1, may correspondingly use a vehicle of categories M_2 , M_3 , N, O_3 or O_4 or a vehicle comparable to these imported for the needs of the said community or person, driven in Finland by a driver, whose domicile is in a state referred to in the said subsection.
- 3. In addition to the provisions of subsection 2, a person permanently residing in Finland may for a maximum period of seven days drive a vehicle, with a trailer, of categories N_2 and N_3 that has been registered in a state of the European Economic Area for the purposes related to goods transport. The vehicle may be driven only to the destination of the goods in Finland and following that the distance in Finland when leaving the country. The driver of the vehicle must be able to show with markings in the bill

of carriage or in another transport document that the transport in question is of the nature referred to in this subsection.

- 4. The Customs may issue a permit, which allows a person residing permanently in Finland to drive a vehicle that has been registered in a contracting state referred to in subsection 1 and that has been imported for the sole purpose of tests and research. The permit may be issued to the manufacturer of the vehicle or his/her representative, manufacturer of vehicle equipment that conducts development work commissioned by the vehicle manufacturer, or an association that tests vehicles or vehicle equipment commissioned by the vehicle or equipment manufacturer. The permit is in force for a maximum period of one year at the time. A person residing permanently in Finland is allowed to drive each vehicle for a maximum period of six months. The Customs may attach limitations to the permit concerning the scope of application and set other terms in order to ensure that the vehicle is being used for the purpose provided in this subsection. The permit holder is responsible for the safe construction and condition of the vehicle in traffic. The Customs shall mark the identification information of the vehicle, date when the vehicle entered the country, and, if needed, date when the vehicle left the country into a copy of the permit, which shall be kept in the vehicle. The permit holder shall write in the said copy the name or names of the persons driving the vehicle. The permit must be cancelled, if the terms or limitations provided for in this Decree and the permit are not followed.
 - 5. Requirements for the use referred to above in subsections 1-4 are as follows:
 - a) the vehicle has registration plates and a nationality mark of the state of registration;
- b) the main masses and dimensions of the vehicle or vehicle combination do not exceed the ones permitted in Finland;
 - c) the vehicle has traffic insurance valid in Finland;
- d) the driver of the vehicle has a registration certificate issued in the country of registration and a certificate of his right of possession of the vehicle, unless it has been registered to the accompanying person; and
- e) if the trailer has been entered into service in a state, where trailers are not registered, the trailer has a number marking issued by its owner or an authority instead of a registration plate or the registration plate of the tractor vehicle is fastened to the rear of the trailer; the driver of the tractor vehicle shall have, instead of a registration certificate, a certificate issued by the owner of the trailer or an authority about the masses permitted to the trailer as well as a certificate about an inspection performed no more than one year before or about a similar technical examination.

Section 51 a (340/2004) Vehicles registered in Kosovo

The provisions of section 51(1) shall also apply to a person permanently residing in Kosovo and the provisions of section 51(2) shall also apply to an association or a person, whose domicile is in Kosovo, if the vehicle mentioned in the said subsections 1 or 2 has been registered by the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), hereinafter the mission. The use of such a vehicle in Finland requires that the provisions of section 51(5) are met. However, registration plates issued by the mission shall be regarded as registration plates of the state of registration as referred to in paragraph a of the said subsection 5, and a marking referring to the mission may be used instead of a nationality mark. Registration documents issued by the mission shall be regarded as a registration certificate issued in a state of registration as referred to in paragraph d of the said subsection 5.

Section 51 b (1334/2004) Vehicles used in employment

A natural person permanently residing in Finland, whose work place is situated outside Finland, may use a vehicle referred to in section 34 b of the Car Tax Act in Finland in a manner referred to in the section without registering the vehicle in Finland, if he or she, in accordance with the section, has the right to use the vehicle in traffic without paying the due taxes. The use of such a vehicle in Finland requires that the provisions of section 51(5) of this Decree are met. A notification referred to in section 34 b of the Car Tax Act that has been received and confirmed by the customs authorities shall always be in the vehicle while driving.

Section 52 Vehicles registered in other states

- 1. The Vehicle Administration may issue to a person or a company, whose permanent domicile is elsewhere than in Finland or in a state referred to in Section 51, customs plates for temporary use in traffic of a vehicle registered in a state referred to herein.
- 2. Requirements for the issuance of customs plates and the certificate authorising their usage are as follows:
 - a) the applicant has imported the vehicle for his temporary needs,
- b) the applicant presents a certificate issued in his home state by the police or the Finnish consul or representative of the above mentioned state in Finland about the registration and approval of the vehicle in the said state for permanent use in traffic;
 - c) the vehicle has a nationality mark of the state of registration;
- d) main masses and dimensions of the vehicle and vehicle combination do not exceed the ones permitted in Finland;
- e) driver of the vehicle has a certificate about his right of possession, if the vehicle has not been registered in the name of the person accompanying the vehicle; and
- f) the applicant presents clarification about traffic insurance for the vehicle, which is valid in Finland and about performing the customs procedures.
- 3. The certificate referred to in this Section shall remain valid for a period not exceeding one year or, when the customs authority has granted the vehicle exemption from the tax and duty on the grounds of subsection 1 in Section 51 for a fixed period, until the end of that period.
- 4. Provisions of Chapter 10 on the registration plates shall apply on applicable parts to customs plates. The certificate about being issued customs plates shall be carried with when using the vehicle in traffic.

Section 53 (340/2004)

Using a trailer registered abroad or in the Region of Åland coupled to a Finnish tractor vehicle

- 1. A trailer registered abroad or in the Region of Åland may be used as coupled to a tractor vehicle registered in Finland, if
 - a) a trailer of categories O3 or O4 has been registered in an EEA state;

- b) a trailer of categories O3 or O4 is used in transport directly related to international forwarding, during which the trailer crosses a border of a third state; or
- c) a trailer other than those referred to in paragraphs 1 or 2 is used for the purposes of tourism or presentation.
 - 2. Requirements for the usage are as follows:
- a) the trailer has a registration plate and the national mark of the state of registration or the Region of Åland;
- b) driver of the tractor vehicle has the registration certificate of the trailer or its certified copy dated no more than six months earlier;
- 3. If the trailer has entered into service in a state, where trailers are not registered, it may also be used as coupled to a tractor vehicle registered in Finland if requirements provided for in subsections 1 and 2 are met. Instead of a registration plate the vehicle shall have a number marking issued by its owner or an authority or the registration plate of the tractor vehicle shall be fastened into the rear of the trailer. The driver of the tractor vehicle shall have, instead of the registration certificate, a certificate issued by the owner of the trailer or an authority on the masses permitted for the trailer as well as a certificate about an inspection or a similar technical examination performed to the trailer no more than one year earlier.

Section 54 (340/2004)

Using an automobile registered abroad or in the Region of Åland as coupled to a Finnish trailer

- 1. An automobile registered abroad or in the Region of Åland may be used for towing a trailer registered in Finland.
 - 2. Requirements for the use are as follows:
- a) the automobile has a registration plate or the national mark of the state of registration or the Region of Åland; and
- b) the driver of the automobile carries with him or her the registration certificates of the automobile and the trailer; a certified copy of the registration certificate of the trailer dated no more than six months earlier is approved instead of the actual registration certificate.

Section 55 (1246/2002)

An unregistered vehicle of category L and a motor sleigh

- 1. A person with a permanent residence abroad may use in Finland his or her own unregistered vehicle of category L or an unregistered motor sleigh, which has been imported for personal temporary use, for a maximum period of one year, or when the customs authorities have on the grounds of provisions of section 51(1) granted the vehicle an exemption from the tax or duty for a fixed period, until the end of that period.
 - 2. Requirements for the usage referred to before in subsection 1 are as follows:
 - a) the vehicle has a traffic insurance valid in Finland; and
 - b) the vehicle has the national mark of its home state.

Section 56 (770/2001)

Registration of a vehicle imported to Finland for personal use in connection with immigration

- 1. A vehicle registered abroad and brought to Finland for personal use in connection with immigration shall be reported for registration in Finland by its owner or by the person who imported it within 30 days since:
 - a) import, when the owner of the vehicle intends to settle in Finland permanently; or
- b) the date, when the owner of the vehicle is regarded to have settled in Finland permanently after his/her arrival in Finland.
- 2. If the vehicle is used in traffic in Finland prior to its registration, it shall satisfy the requirements provided in section 51, subsection 5 or section 52, subsection 2 on applicable parts.

Chapter 15 **Miscellaneous provisions**

Section 57 (340/2004)
Reports to EEA states and the Region of Åland

- 1. The Vehicle Administration shall report the registration in Finland of a vehicle registered in an EEA state to the registrator of the country in question.
- 2. The Vehicle Administration shall also report the registration elsewhere in Finland of a vehicle registered in the Region of Åland to the registrator of the Region of Åland. The new registration number of the vehicle shall be reported in the same occasion.

Section 58 (340/2004)

International certificates on registration

The Vehicle Administration may authorize, under its own terms and conditions, an automobile organization or a contract-based registrar registered in Finland to issue registration certificates in accordance with the International Road Traffic Agreement. Such registration certificates may be issued only to vehicles, which are registered in Finland and which by their construction and equipment satisfy the rules and regulations of the agreement and are equipped with a nationality mark .

Section 59 Reports by the insurance companies

A traffic insurance company shall report to the Vehicle Administration the vehicles subject to registration obligation insured in the said company as well as temporary number certificates, whose traffic insurance fee has been left unpaid.

Section 60 has been repealed by the Decree 186/1999.

Section 60 (1117/2003)

Domicile of the vehicle

The domicile of a vehicle is considered to be its owner's or possessor's domicile or the domicile of the business, association or organisation that has been entered as the vehicle owner or possessor.

Section 61 (340/2004) Yielding the registration certificate and registration plates

As a registered vehicle is transferred to a new owner, the previous owner shall yield the parts I and II of the registration certificate as well as registration plates of the vehicle.

Section 62 (340/2004) Defective documents

- 1. A contract-based registrar, a possessor of a vehicle inspection operating licence, the police, the National Board of Customs and the Frontier Guard are obliged to report to the Vehicle Administration a certificate of conformity, a prior notification certificate, a registration certificate and other documents related to registration and issuance of registration plates, which is found to be defective.
- 2. An owner or possessor of a vehicle is obliged to return a defective document to the Vehicle Administration at the request of the Vehicle Administration.

Section 63 (186/1999) Delivering the documents

The contract-based registrar shall deliver the documents accumulated during the registration procedure to the Vehicle Administration after the procedure has been completed.

Section 64 (1246/2002) Sanction for a defective prior notification

The Vehicle Administration may order vehicles of a vehicle manufacturer or representative of a vehicle manufacturer referred to in section 65 of the Vehicle Act to registration inspection instead of a prior notification, if the provisions on prior notification have not been observed.

Section 65 (1242/1999) Sanctions for neglects

- 1. When a vehicle has been used against the provisions of this Decree or the regulations enacted on the grounds of it have not been observed, a representative of the police, the National Board of Customs or the Frontier Guard Service may take the registration plates, transfer licence and transfer signs of the vehicle into his custody and thus prevent its usage. The vehicle may be transported to a place of destination for repairs and inspection with a written permit issued by the police, the National Board of Customs or the Frontier Guard Service.
- 2. When a manufacturer or importer of a vehicle has not observed the rules and regulations enacted on inspection or registration of motor vehicles, the Vehicle Administration may prohibit the registration of the vehicles of the neglecting party without a registration inspection.

Section 66 (1246/2002) Punishments for violations

The provisions of the Vehicle Act shall be applied to punishments for violations against the provisions of this Decree.

(Section 67 has been repealed by the Decree 1246/2002.)

Section 68 (340/2004)

Information and dimensions entered in forms and registration certificates and the dimensions of registration plates

- 1. The registration certificate shall meet the requirements laid down in Council Directive 1999/37/EC on the registration documents for vehicles as amended by Commission Directive 2003/127/EC. This does not, however, apply to an export registration certificate referred to in section 40. The registration certificate shall be printed on paper forms confirmed by the Vehicle Administration.
- 2. The Vehicle Administration shall confirm the information included in the forms and the layout of the form used in the registration of vehicles and in issuing temporary registration plates and transfer licences. The Vehicle Administration shall issue more precise orders about the type of information that shall be entered in the registration certificate. It shall also confirm the dimensions and other features of the registration plates and transfer signs.

Section 68 a (1242/1999) Manufacturing of registration plates and transfer signs

The Vehicle Administration shall be responsible for manufacturing and delivering registration plates and transfer signs to those, who have the right to issue registration plates and transfer signs for use in traffic. The Vehicle Administration shall also be responsible for delivering registration plates to those, who send a prior notification.

Section 69 (1242/1999) *Instructions*

The Vehicle Administration may, whenever necessary, issue more precise orders about performing the registration procedures or procedures related to transfer licence to be carried out on the grounds of this Decree.

Section 70 Entry into force and transition provisions

- 1. This Decree shall enter into force on 1 January 1996.
- 2. This Decree shall repeal the Decree on Vehicle Registration (1703/92) of 30 December 1992 with the amendments made later.

- 3. The information about category and group referred to before in point d of subsection 1 in Section 3 as well as information referred to in point b of subsection 1 in Section 4 shall be entered into the register in the case of a vehicle initially entered into the service prior to 1 January 1993 only, if the owner requests such entry to be made.
- 4. An insurance plate fastened to a motor sleigh, moped and a vehicle of category L_2 or a plate containing a mark of a state department fastened to a similar vehicle owned by the state as well as a type plate fastened to a moped or a vehicle of category L_2 on the grounds of the Decree in force prior to entry into force of this Decree may still be used in the vehicles without prejudice to subsection 3 of Section 34 in this Decree.
- 5. Quantity of numbers in the registration number of a trailer entered into the register prior to 1 January 1993 may differ from the provision of subsection 1 of Section 36.
- 6. Entry concerning the time of registration in the registration plates of an export registered vehicle yielded by the Motor Vehicles Registration Centre prior to entry into force of this Decree may be in accordance with the Decree in force prior to entry into force of this Decree.
- 7. Period of validity of registration and right of usage in Finland of a vehicle export registered prior to entry into force of this Decree shall, instead of the provisions of this Decree, be defined on the grounds of the provisions of Section 42 in the Decree repealed by this Decree, as partly amended by the Decree (532/93) of 18 June 1993.
- 8. Measures necessary for the enforcement of this Decree may be undertaken prior to its entry into force.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 102/1996 read as follows: *This Decree enters into force on 1 March 1996.*

The implementing provisions of the Decree 762/1996 read as follows: *This Decree enters into force on 1 November 1996*.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 449/1997 read as follows:

- 1. This Decree enters into force on 1 June 1997. It shall be applied to an export-registered vehicle after its entry into force.
- 2. The period of validity of export registration may be extended, if, before the entry into force of this Decree, no more than 60 days have passed since the beginning of the extended period of validity and if the previous export registration is valid when the extension is applied. However, the previous and the extended periods of validity for export registration may not together exceed the maximum period referred to in Section 41, subsection 1.
- 3. Vehicle Administration shall, when necessary, decide on the application procedure related to extended periods.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 673/1997 read as follows:

- 1. This Decree enters into force on 1 August 1997. However, the amendments to Section 36 shall apply to transfer plates issued on 1 September 1997 or thereafter.
- 2. Measures necessary for the implementation of this Decree may be undertaken before its entry into force.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 292/1998 read as follows: *This Decree enters into force on 1 May 1998.*

The implementing provisions of the Decree 705/1998 read as follows:

- 1. This Decree enters into force on 30 September 1998.
- 2. Information about airbag, safety belt tightener, noise level of a vehicle at standstill, combined fuel consumption value and maximum permissible roof load shall be entered into the register before 1 January 1999 of a vehicle that will be taken into use for the first time only if the person notifying the vehicle into the register demands it.
- 3. As an exception to the paragraph a of subsection 1 of Section 5 of the Decree, a prior notification may be given of a vehicle of category M_1 that has been type-approved in several phases or to a vehicle of category N to be type-inspected in Finland and to be converted into a vehicle of category M_1 until 31 December 1999, even though a certificate of conformity has not been issued for the vehicle. A prior notification may be given of a vehicle type-inspected as belonging to a small series even after the abovementioned date.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 1035/1998 read as follows:

This Decree enters into force on 1 January 1999.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 186/1999 read as follows:

This Decree enters into force on 1 March 1999.

Measures necessary for the enforcement of this Decree may be undertaken prior to its entry into force.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 1242/1999 read as follows:

- 1. This Decree enters into force on 1 January 2000.
- 2. Measures necessary for the enforcement of this Decree may be undertaken prior to its entry into force.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 764/2000 read as follows:

- 1. This Decree enters into force on 1 May 2001. However, Section 51, subsections 3 and 4 and Section 56 shall enter into force on 15 September 2000.
- 2. Registration plates issued by the party carrying out the registration prior to the entry into force of this Decree may still be used unless the right to use them has been limited to a certain period of time. If registration plates have been delivered in accordance with Section 33 to the issuer of an advance notice prior to the entry into force of this Decree, they can be taken into use in vehicles of first registration after the entry into force of this Decree.
- 3. On application registration plates referred to in Section 37, subsection 1 may be issued to automobiles, motorcycles and trailers to replace registration plates issued prior to the entry into force of this Decree.
- 4. Measures necessary for the implementation of this Decree may be undertaken before its entry force.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 109/2001 read as follows: *This Decree enters into force on 15 February 2001.*

The implementing provisions of the Decree 770/2001 read as follows: *This Decree enters into force on 1 October 2001*.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 1246/2002 read as follows:

- 1. This Decree enters into force on 1 January 2003.
- 2. The provisions of sections 9(3), 10(5) and 12(3) in force at the time of the entry into force of this Act shall apply until 30 April 2003.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 289/2003 read as follows:

This Decree enters into force on 14 April 2003 and will remain in force until 31 December 2003.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 674/2003 read as follows:

This Decree enters into force on 15 July 2003.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 1117/2003 read as follows:

This Decree enters into force on 1 January 2004.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 1307/2003 read as follows:

- 1. This Decree enters into force on 1 January 2004 and will remain in force until 31 December 2004.
- 2. If the National Board of Customs has by virtue of section 48(5) of the Government Decree on temporarily amending section 48 of the Decree on vehicle registration (289/2003) issued a transfer licence, in which the right to use the vehicle is limited to a period of less than three months and the right only extends to 2003, the transfer licence entitles to use the vehicle in traffic also in 2004 without any separate extension of the licence's period of validity but only for a maximum total period of three months. A precondition for the use of the vehicle is that it has valid traffic insurance.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 340/2004 read as follows:

- 1. This Decree enters into force on 1 June 2004. The party carrying out the registration may, however, as of 10 May 2004 issue registration certificates in accordance with this Decree to which the provisions of this Decree shall apply.
- 2. The provisions of sections 9(1)(g) and 3 shall apply to registration certificates as referred to in the Directive referred to in section 68(1) that are issued on or after 1 June 2004.
- 3. Measures necessary for the implementation of this Decree may be undertaken before the Decree's entry into force.
- 4. Registration certificates issued for vehicles by the time of the entry into force of this Decree will remain in force as such until the vehicles are issued registration certificates that are in accordance with this Decree.
- 5. The provisions of this Decree on the registration certificate shall apply, in applicable parts, to registration certificates issued before the entry into force of this Decree; the provisions on the part I of the registration certificate shall apply, in applicable parts, to the technical part of registration certificates issued before the entry into force of this Decree; and the provisions on the part II of the registration certificate shall apply, in applicable parts, to the notice part of the registration certificate issued before the entry into force of this Decree.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 790/2004 read as follows:

1. This Decree enters into force on 1 September 2004.

2. If the registration certificate or registration plates of a vehicle have been issued to the Vehicle Administration or a holder of an inspection operating licence before this Decree enters into force, the provisions of section 17 in force at the time of the entry into force of this Decree will apply.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 1334/2004 shall read as follows:

- 1. This Decree enters into force on 1 January 2005. Section 48(5) of the Decree is valid until 31 December 2005.
- 2. If the National Board of Customs has issued a transfer licence by virtue of section 48(5) of the Government Decree on temporarily amending section 48 of the Decree on Vehicle Registration (1307/2003), in which the right to use the vehicle has been limited to less than three months and the use has applied the year 2004 only, the transfer licence authorises to use the vehicle in traffic without an extension of the period of validity also in 2005 but only for a maximum total period of three months. The use of the vehicle requires valid traffic insurance.

The implementing provisions of the Decree 255/2005 shall read as follows: *This Decree enters into force on 1 May 2005.*