



Department
for Business
Innovation & Skills

Statement on the terms “vehicle” and “electric vehicle” – August 2013

In line with our ongoing commitment to keep all guidance issued by this department under constant review, we have decided to amend the parts of our guidance on the Batteries Directive/Regulations that explain the use of the terms “vehicle” and “electric vehicle”. This is significant because the Directive states that a battery used in any type of electric vehicle should be regarded as an industrial battery.

For the purposes of the UK Batteries Regulations our interpretation of the word “vehicle” will, as before, use a dictionary definition of the term vehicle i.e. “A means of conveyance provided with wheels or runners and used for the carriage of persons or goods.” This definition has been slightly amended in order to draw directly from the Oxford English Dictionary.

However, the examples of electric vehicles given in the guidance will be amended to reflect the wording of the Directive more closely than they did before, by listing only the types of electric vehicle shown in the Directive’s recitals. The guidance will no longer mention golf “buggies” or powered trolleys since they are not mentioned in the Directive. In our view, both golf buggies and powered golf trolleys can be regarded as electric vehicles since they are both means of conveyance for persons or goods.

The new guidance will have effect from the date that it is published.