

European Working Time Directives for Drivers

The EC Working Time Directive has special provision for drivers of vehicles in the UK. The Road Transport (Working Time) Regulations 2005 were introduced to lay down minimum conditions relating to weekly working time, rest entitlements and annual leave.

So what does it mean?

- _ Drivers shall not exceed 60 hours in any week
- _ Drivers shall not exceed 48 hours per week based on an average over 17 weeks
- _ No driver shall work for more than 6 hours without a break
- _ Workers working between 6 and 9 hours are entitled to at least 30 minutes break
- _ Where a driver exceeds 9 hours then he is entitled to 45 minutes break
- _ Each break must be of at least 15 minute segments
- _ An employer shall take all reasonable steps in keeping with the need to protect the health and safety of the worker to ensure the limits specified are complied with
- _ Keep records which are adequate to show the compliance of these Regulations for each employee
- _ Keep a copy of those records for a minimum of 2 years and make these available to both the employee and to any enforcement officer if requested
- _ Any person not complying with the Regulations will be guilty of an offence

To see the Regulations log onto www.opsi.gov.uk/SI/si2005/20050639.htm

So what do I have to do?

You have to ensure your drivers comply with the Regulation and have the necessary documentation available for at least 2 years.

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