Headlamps: let's aim to get it right
(for heavy goods vehicles and public service vehicles)

The 5 stages for ensuring the correct alignment of the headlamp aim testing equipment

For more information, visit our website: www.transportoffice.gov.uk

Contact us:
0300 123 9000*
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* Calls provided by BT are charged at a low rate. Charges from other providers may vary.

Diagram of Tolerance Bands

Printed on recycled paper made up of 75% de-inked post consumer waste and 25% mill broke paper

VOSA/PSP/1820/DEC 08
Use the electronic positioning system for alignment. If this is not available, ensure that the centre line of the collecting lens is aligned horizontally to the centre of the headlamp (this may be a spot on the headlamp lens or maybe the centre of the bulb). This procedure must be carried out for all lamps to be tested.

Align the headlamp aim equipment with the longitudinal axis of the vehicle (this may use any two appropriate fixed points on the vehicle). In some cases a mirror will align transversely across the vehicle.

Use the electronic positioning system for alignment. If this is not available, ensure that the centre line of the collecting lens is aligned vertically to the centre of the headlamp (this may be a spot on the headlamp lens or maybe the centre of the bulb). This procedure must be carried out for all lamps to be tested.

Once aligned, determine the height from the floor to the centre of the headlamp or bulb.

The 5 stages for ensuring the correct alignment of the headlamp aim testing equipment

1. Position the vehicle on the designated headlamp standing area. Ensure that the headlamp is within the focal distance specified in the headlamp aim equipment operating instructions. This may also be identified by a line on the floor or by measurement.

2. Align the headlamp aim equipment with the longitudinal axis of the vehicle (this may use any two appropriate fixed points on the vehicle). In some cases a mirror will align transversely across the vehicle.

3. Use the electronic positioning system for alignment. If this is not available, ensure that the centre line of the collecting lens is aligned vertically to the centre of the headlamp (this may be a spot on the headlamp lens or maybe the centre of the bulb). This procedure must be carried out for all lamps to be tested.

4. Use the electronic positioning system for alignment. If this is not available, ensure that the centre line of the collecting lens is aligned horizontally to the centre of the headlamp (this may be a spot on the headlamp lens or maybe the centre of the bulb). This procedure must be carried out for all lamps to be tested.

5. Once aligned, determine the height from the floor to the centre of the headlamp or bulb.

Position the vehicle on the designated headlamp standing area. Ensure that the headlamp is within the focal distance specified in the headlamp aim equipment operating instructions. This may also be identified by a line on the floor or by measurement.