



## Bodybuilder's Bulletin

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### Type Approval – What does the bodybuilder need to do?

29 October 2014 will see the full introduction of the EU Type Approval scheme in the UK. There are 3 options for obtaining Type Approval and these will depend on the specific needs and operating parameters of the individual bodybuilder.

The 3 options are:

**ECWVTA** – EC Whole Vehicle Type Approval – no limit on numbers and is accepted by all EU member states

**NSSTA** – National Small Series Type Approval – limit of 250 units per 'type' and may be accepted by all member states (this is not compulsory)

**IVA** – Individual Vehicle Approval – this is an individual test carried out per chassis at the designated VOSA Test Centre.

After 29 October 2014, it will be illegal to register any Large Goods Vehicle without having one of the approvals above which clearly relates to the specific chassis.

We would advise that for those bodybuilders wishing to go either ECWVTA or NSSTA, communication with VCA (the UK Approval Authority) should start as soon as possible in order to get the appropriate processes and controls in place.

For those bodybuilders building lower volumes and see the IVA option as the way forward, we would advise that VOSA currently have limited resources in place to carry out large volumes of testing.

VOSA have stated that they will only increase resources when demand increases. If a large number of bodybuilders follow this route, then there will be severe time delays in booking test appointments – currently, 8 weeks is the typical lead time.

In addition, the IVA includes far more detailed testing of the vehicle and bodywork systems to ensure that all the various elements of the vehicle fully comply with EC legislation.

For those not familiar with IVA testing, we would suggest that they embark on at least one voluntary IVA test so that they are familiar with what is required.

Full details on what is covered in the IVA can be found in the IVA Manual on the VOSA website.

To assist you, please find appropriate web links below:

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/vca/vehicletype/type-approval-for-go.asp>

<https://www.gov.uk/vehicle-approval/inspection-fees>

*Should you have any queries on the above, please contact Engineering on 01793 448170.*

**Please circulate and then retain in the Body Builders Manual.**

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