

**Partial amendment to the announcement of Enforcement regulations, etc., for road  
vehicles act  
(Vehicle and Motorcycle noise problem)**

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Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and transport

**1. Need of amendment**

Vehicle and Motorcycle noise is becoming a big social problem as the situation continues to deteriorate due to a growing number of vehicles and motorcycles equipped with illegally modified replacement mufflers.

Government of Japan (MLIT) is going to amend the safety regulations for vehicles and motorcycles to prevent this problem and the standard mufflers will be popular, and vehicle inspector will take action against vehicle and motorcycle equipped non-standard mufflers effectively by the amended regulations during compulsory vehicle inspections or on-road inspections.

**2. Outline of amendment**

**(1) Extending the scope of application of the regulations on running noise such as acceleration noise standard**

This means that the test on running noise such as acceleration noise standard, which is currently only applicable to “type-certified new vehicles,” will also apply to “non-type certified new vehicles (including non-type certified imported vehicles)” as well as “vehicles equipped with replaced mufflers.”

**(2) Prohibiting muffler with a structure that easily allows the noise reduction mechanism of muffler to be removed**

This means that any muffler with a structure that allows the noise reduction mechanism of muffler, such as inner silencer, to be removed easily because screws were used instead of welding, will be banned. The proposed amendment requires such mechanisms to be welded or fastened with rivets.

**(3) Establishing a muffler certification system, and utilizing the compulsory vehicle inspection system as well as spot inspections on the road**

This means that mufflers would be added to the list of the devices that are subject to the type designation system. And, during compulsory vehicle inspections or on-road inspections, vehicles not equipped with the original muffler or with a type-certified muffler will be regarded as not in compliance with the standards, in case that there is no test certificate issued by an official test organization to prove conformity with the requirements of the acceleration noise standard.