



EUROPEAN UNION

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

THE COUNCIL

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LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Subject: DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE
COUNCIL on the coupling device and the reverse of wheeled
agricultural or forestry tractors
(codified version)

DIRECTIVE 2009/.../EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

of

**on the coupling device and the reverse
of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors**

(codified version)

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 95 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee¹,

Acting in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 251 of the Treaty²,

¹ OJ C 10, 15.1.2008, p. 21.

² Opinion of the European Parliament of 11 December 2007 (not yet published in the *Official Journal*) and Council Decision of ...

Whereas:

- (1) Council Directive 79/533/EEC of 17 May 1979 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the coupling device and the reverse of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors¹ has been substantially amended several times². In the interests of clarity and rationality the said Directive should be codified.
- (2) Directive 79/533/EEC is one of the separate Directives of the EC type-approval system provided for in Council Directive 74/150/EEC of 4 March 1974 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the type-approval of wheeled agricultural or forestry tractors, as replaced by Directive 2003/37/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on type-approval of agricultural or forestry tractors, their trailers and interchangeable towed machinery, together with their systems, components and separate technical units³, and lays down technical prescriptions concerning the design and construction of agricultural or forestry tractors as regards the coupling device and the reverse. Those technical prescriptions concern the approximation of the laws of the Member States to enable the EC type-approval procedure provided for in Directive 2003/37/EC to be applied in respect of each type of tractor. Consequently, the provisions laid down in Directive 2003/37/EC relating to agricultural and forestry tractors, their trailers and interchangeable towed machinery, together with their systems, components and separate technical units, apply to this Directive.

¹ OJ L 145, 13.6.1979, p. 20.

² See Annex III, Part A.

³ OJ L 171, 9.7.2003, p. 1.

- (3) This Directive should be without prejudice to the obligations of the Member States relating to the time-limits for transposition into national law and application of the Directives set out in Annex III, Part B,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

1. For the purposes of this Directive "tractor" (agricultural or forestry) means any motor vehicle, fitted with wheels or endless tracks and having at least two axles, the main function of which lies in its tractive power and which is specially designed to tow, push, carry or power certain tools, machinery or trailers intended for agricultural or forestry use. It may be equipped to carry a load and passengers.
2. This Directive shall apply only to tractors defined in paragraph 1 which are equipped with pneumatic tyres and have a maximum design speed of between 6 and 40 km/h.

Article 2

1. No Member State may refuse to grant EC type-approval, to issue the document provided for in Article 2(u) of Directive 2003/37/EC, or to grant national type-approval in respect of a type of tractor on grounds relating to the coupling device or to the reverse if these satisfy the requirements set out in Annexes I and II.
2. Member States may not issue the document provided for in Article 2(u) of Directive 2003/37/EC in respect of a type of tractor which does not meet the requirements of this Directive.

Member States may refuse to grant national type-approval in respect of a type of tractor which does not meet the requirements of this Directive.

Article 3

No Member State may refuse the registration or prohibit the sale, initial entry into service or use of tractors on grounds relating to the coupling device or to the reverse, if these satisfy the requirements set out in Annexes I and II.

Article 4

The amendments necessary to adapt to technical progress the requirements of Annexes I and II shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 20(3) of Directive 2003/37/EC.

Article 5

Member States shall communicate to the Commission the text of the main provisions of national law which they adopt in the field covered by this Directive.

Article 6

Directive 79/533/EEC, as amended by the Directives listed in Annex III, Part A, is repealed, without prejudice to the obligations of the Member States relating to the time-limits for transposition into national law and application of the Directives set out in Annex III, Part B.

References to the repealed Directive shall be construed as references to this Directive and shall be read in accordance with the correlation table in Annex IV.

Article 7

This Directive shall enter into force on the twentieth day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 1 January 2010.

Article 8

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at

For the European Parliament
The President

For the Council
The President

ANNEX I

COUPLING DEVICE

1. Number

Every tractor must have a special device to which it must be possible to attach a connection such as a tow-bar or a tow-rope for towing purposes.

2. Position

The device must be fitted to the front of the tractor, which must be equipped with a coupling pin.

3. Design

The device shall be of the slotted-jaw type. The opening at the centre of the locking pin shall be $60 \text{ mm} + 0,5/- 1,5 \text{ mm}$ and the depth of the jaw measured from the centre of the pin shall be $62 \text{ mm} \pm 0,5 \text{ mm}$.

The coupling pin must have a diameter of $30 + 1,5 \text{ mm}$ and be fitted with a device preventing it from leaving its seating during use. The securing device must be non-detachable.

The tolerance of $+ 1,5$ referred to above should not be regarded as a manufacturing tolerance but as a permissible variation in nominal dimensions for pins of different designs.

ANNEX II

REVERSE

All tractors must be equipped with a device for reversing which can be operated from the driving position.

ANNEX III

Part A

Repealed Directive with list of its successive amendments

(referred to in Article 6)

Council Directive 79/533/EEC
(OJ L 145, 13.6.1979, p. 20)

Council Directive 82/890/EEC
(OJ L 378, 31.12.1982, p. 45)

Only as regards the references
made in Article 1(1) to
Directive 79/533/EEC

Directive 97/54/EC of the European
Parliament and of the Council
(OJ L 277, 10.10.1997, p. 24)

Only as regards the references
made in the first indent of
Article 1 to Directive 79/533/EEC

Commission Directive 1999/58/EC
(OJ L 148, 15.6.1999, p. 37)

Part B

List of time-limits for transposition into national law and application

(referred to in Article 6)

Directive	Time-limit for transposition	Date of application
79/533/EEC	21 November 1980	—
82/890/EEC	21 June 1984	—
97/54/EC	22 September 1998	23 September 1998
1999/58/EC	30 June 2000 ⁽¹⁾	—

⁽¹⁾ In compliance with Article 2 of Directive 1999/58/EC:

"1. From 1 July 2000, Member States may not:

- refuse to grant EC type-approval, to issue the document provided for in the third indent of Article 10(1) of Directive 74/150/EEC, or to grant national type-approval, in respect of a type of tractor, or
- prohibit the entry into service of tractors,

if the tractors in question comply with the requirements of Directive 79/533/EEC, as amended by this Directive.

2. From 1 January 2001, Member States:

- may no longer issue the document provided for in the third indent of Article 10(1) of Directive 74/150/EEC in respect of a type of tractor which does not meet the requirements of Directive 79/533/EEC, as amended by this Directive,
- may refuse to grant national type-approval in respect of a type of tractor which does not meet the requirements of Directive 79/533/EEC, as amended by this Directive."

ANNEX IV

CORRELATION TABLE

Directive 79/533/EEC	Directive 1999/58/EC	This Directive
Article 1		Article 1
	Article 2	Article 2
Article 3		Article 3
Article 4		Article 4
Article 5(1)		–
Article 5(2)		Article 5
–		Articles 6 and 7
Article 6		Article 8
Annex I		Annex I
Annex II		Annex II
–		Annex III
–		Annex IV