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*Translation*

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## Identification marking for special vehicles

*Marquage d'identification des véhicules spéciaux*  
*Kennzeichnung der Specialfahrzeuge*



UNION INTERNATIONALE DES CHEMINS DE FER  
INTERNATIONALER EISENBAHNVERBAND  
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF RAILWAYS

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All members of UIC and OSJD

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*The person responsible for this leaflet is named in the UIC Code*

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## Summary

Rolling stock numbers are essential data for the railway system. They enable a vehicle to be identified unambiguously and constitute a common language for railway undertakings (RUs), infrastructure managers and the authorities competent in each state for:

- vehicle certification and registration;
- monitoring the vehicle in operation;
- managing maintenance;
- handover and acceptance of vehicles between RUs;
- accounting and financial operations.

Hitherto special vehicles<sup>1</sup> received an identification number made up of numbers and letters based on national rules. The railway reforms in numerous countries, in particular rail market liberalisation and the new procedures governing rail vehicle operation, also concern the field of construction, maintenance and infrastructure inspections. A sine qua non of this is to have a unique numbering mechanism for special vehicles.

This leaflet describes the structure of the number borne by special vehicles, and the marking used for the identification of a vehicle, based on principles directly stemming from freight and passenger tractive and hauled stock.

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1. For the purposes of this leaflet, the expression "special vehicle" shall also be used to refer to hauled vehicles specially fitted out for construction, maintenance and infrastructure inspections.

# 1 - Purpose

A special vehicle's identification marking comprises a structured number enabling the vehicle to be unequivocally identified.

This number is supplemented by letter markings, which are described in this leaflet.

This leaflet does not describe:

- the numbering of coaches and wagons of ordinary type used for construction, maintenance and infrastructure inspections, which is governed by the rules laid down in *UIC Leaflets 438-1 and 438-2* (see Bibliography - page 14);
- the other markings and signs stipulated elsewhere in the specifications for interoperability and prevailing regulations;
- the procedures for registration, database entry and technical approval of vehicles, applied by the competent authorities in each state, in accordance with the national legislation, which in turn complies with international legislation and the international agreements in force.

## 2 - Scope

Special vehicles worked on railway infrastructure for domestic and international rail services must bear the identification marking set out in this leaflet, in compliance with the legislation and agreements in force.