

WORKING TIME AND DRIVING AND RESTING HOURS OF DRIVERS

Driving hours

The driving period must not exceed:

- 9 hours daily. Maximum twice per week, it may be extended to 10 hours.
- 56 hours per week.
- 90 hours during any 2 consecutive weeks.

Breaks

Taking a break is linked to the **working time** and driving, as follows:

(a) After 6 working hours the driver must take a break of at least:

- **30 minutes**, if the total **working time is between 6-9 hours**.
- **45 minutes**, if the total **working time exceeds 9 hours**.

This break time may be divided into breaks of at least 15 minutes each.

(b) **After a driving period of 4,5 hours** (continuous or not) the driver must take an uninterrupted **break of not less than 45 minutes**, unless a rest period follows. This break may be replaced by a break of at least 15 minutes followed by a break of at least 30 minutes.



After a driving period of 4,5 hours the driver must take an uninterrupted break of not less than 45 minutes.

Daily rest

The driver is entitled to at least **11 consecutive hours of daily rest** within a 24-hour period. The daily rest period may be shortened to 9 consecutive hours maximum 3 times per week. Alternatively, the daily rest period may be distributed in two different rest periods of at least 3 and 9 hours, respectively.

Weekly rest

In any **2 consecutive weeks** the driver must have a minimum rest period as follows:

- two regular weekly rest periods of **at least 45 hours each**, or
- one regular weekly rest period of **at least 45 hours** and one reduced weekly rest period of **at least 24 hours**.

In the case of a reduced weekly rest period, the reduction must be compensated by taking an **equivalent period of rest** attached to another rest period of at least 9 hours, **before the end of the third week** following the week when the reduction took place (at least 9 hours of rest+compensation)

The weekly rest must start **no later than 144 hours (6 x 24 hours)** since the previous weekly rest period.

Working time

- The average weekly working time **must not exceed 48 hours**.
- The maximum weekly working time **may be extended to 60 hours**, only in the case that the average working time of a mobile worker or a self-employed driver, over a four months period, does not exceed 48 hours per week. This period starts from the first week of the extension of the working time to more than 48 hours.

The **working time** is the period that lies **between the beginning and the end of the drivers' work**, during which are at their workstation, at the disposal of the employer and **exercising their functions or activities (driving, loading and unloading, assisting passengers boarding and disembarking from the vehicle, cleaning and technical maintenance of the vehicles etc)**.

Night work

Night work is work that includes working time between 00:00 and 04:00 a.m. (regardless of the duration). Night work **must not exceed 10 hours in any 24-hour period**.

Use of driver cards and record sheets

The driver shall use record sheets or/and driver card starting **from the moment he/she takes over the vehicle until the end of work**.

Operating the tachograph

The driver operates the switch mechanism enabling "other work", "break/rest period", "periods of availability" **to be recorded distinctly**, (e.g. if the driver is having a break he/she should make sure that the switch mechanism is showing the bed symbol and if the driver is loading-unloading the two hammers symbol).

Recording the activities of a driver who is being away from the vehicle

When, as a result of being away from the vehicle, a driver is **unable to use the tachograph fitted to the vehicle**, the "other work", "periods of availability" and "break/rest period" shall:

- be entered on the record sheet, either manually, by automatic recording or other means, legibly and without dirtying the record sheet; or
- be entered onto the driver card using the manual entry facility provided for in the tachograph.

Seals

The tachograph seals which are removed (e.g. by a mechanic) or broken, should be replaced - without delay - by an approved tachograph workshop.

Additional information at the following numbers:

- 25819402/ 25819820/ 25819440 for Limassol and Paphos.
- 22803108/ 22803100 for Nicosia, Larnaka and Famagusta.

Submit a complaint:

- By email: info@dlr.mlsi.gov.cy
- On line by completing the form at: <http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/dlr>
- In writing: Department of Labour Relations, 1431 Nicosia

Department of Labour Relations
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL INSURANCE

Website: <http://www.mlsi.gov.cy/dlr>