

**Extract from Finance Bill 2008 (as passed)**

Amendment of section 130  
(interpretation) of Finance Act  
1992.

**78.**—Section 130 of the Finance Act 1992 is amended by inserting the following definition after the definition of “conversion”:

“‘CO<sub>2</sub> emissions’ means the level of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions for a vehicle measured in accordance with the provisions of Council Directive 80/1268/EEC of 16 December 1980<sup>20</sup> (as amended) and listed in Annex VIII of Council Directive 70/156/EEC of 6 February 1970<sup>21</sup> (as amended) and contained in the relevant EC type-approval certificate or EC certificate of conformity or any other appropriate documentation which confirms compliance with any measures taken to give effect in the State to any act of the European Communities relating to the approximation of the laws of Member States in respect of type-approval for the type of vehicle concerned;”.

Amendment of section 132  
(charge of excise duty) of Finance  
Act 1992.

**79.**—(1) Section 132 of the Finance Act 1992 is amended in subsection (3)—

(a) by substituting the following for paragraphs (a), (aa) and (b):  
“(a) in case the vehicle the subject of the registration or declaration concerned is a category A vehicle—  
(i) by reference to the Table to this subsection, or  
(ii) where—

(I) the level of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions cannot be confirmed by reference to the relevant EC type-approval certificate or EC certificate of conformity, and

(II) the Commissioners are not satisfied of the level of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by reference to any other document produced in support of the declaration for registration,  
at the rate of an amount equal to the highest percentage specified in the Table to this subsection of the value of the vehicle or €720, whichever is the greater,”

and

(b) by inserting the following Table after paragraph (f):

“TABLE

CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions (CO <sub>2</sub> /km)	Percentage payable of the value of the vehicle
0g/km up to and including 120g/km	14% or €280 whichever is the greater
More than 120g/km up to and including 140g/km	16% or €320 whichever is the greater
More than 140g/km up to and including 155g/km	20% or €400 whichever is the greater
More than 155g/km up to and including 170g/km	24% or €480 whichever is the greater
More than 170g/km up to and including 190g/km	28% or €560 whichever is the greater
More than 190g/km up to and including 225g/km	32% or €640 whichever is the greater
More than 225g/km	36% or €720 whichever is the greater

(2) This section comes into effect on 1 July 2008.

<sup>20</sup>OJ No. L375 of 31 December 1980, p.36

<sup>21</sup>OJ No. L42 of 23 February 1970, p.1

Amendment of section 134  
(permanent reliefs) of Finance Act  
1992.

**80.**—Section 134 of the Finance Act 1992 is amended in subsection (11) by substituting the following for paragraph (b) (other than for the proviso to that paragraph):

“(b) In paragraph (a) ‘short-term self-drive contracts’ means contracts under which vehicles are hired to persons for the purpose of being driven by them for any term or part of a term which, when added to the term of any such hiring of the same vehicle or any other vehicle to the same person does not exceed 5 weeks in any period of 12 months from the date of the commencement of the last hiring:”.

Remission or repayment in  
respect of vehicle registration tax  
on certain hybrid electric vehicles,  
or certain flexible fuel vehicles, or  
certain electric vehicles, or certain  
electric motorcycles.

**81.**—Chapter IV of Part II of the Finance Act 1992 is amended by substituting the following for section 135C (substituted by section 65 of the Finance Act 2007):

“135C.—(1) In this section—

‘hybrid electric vehicle’ means a vehicle that derives its motive power from a combination of an electric motor and an internal combustion engine and is capable of being driven on electric propulsion alone for a material part of its normal driving cycle;

‘flexible fuel vehicle’ means a vehicle that derives its motive power from an internal combustion engine that is capable of using a blend of ethanol and petrol, where such blend contains a minimum of 85 per cent ethanol;

‘electric vehicle’ means a vehicle that derives its motive power exclusively from an electric motor;

‘electric motorcycle’ means a motorcycle that derives its motive power exclusively from an electric motor.

(2) Where a person first registers a category A vehicle or a category B vehicle during the period from 1 January 2008 to 30 June 2008 and the Commissioners are satisfied that the vehicle is—

(a) a series production hybrid electric vehicle, or

(b) a series production flexible fuel vehicle,

then the Commissioners may remit or repay to that person 50 per cent of the vehicle registration tax payable or paid in accordance with paragraphs (a), (aa), (b) or (c) of section 132(3).

(3) (a) Where a person first registers a category A vehicle or a category B vehicle during the period from 1 July 2008 to 31 December 2010 and the Commissioners are satisfied that the vehicle is—

(i) a series production hybrid electric vehicle, or

(ii) a series production flexible fuel vehicle,

then the Commissioners may remit or repay to that person up to a maximum amount of €2,500 of the vehicle registration tax payable or paid by reference to the Table to this subsection in accordance with paragraphs (a), (b) or (c) of section 132(3).

(b) In this subsection “age”, in relation to a vehicle means the time

that has elapsed since the date on which the vehicle first entered into service.

TABLE

Age of vehicle	Maximum amount which may be remitted or repaid
New vehicle, first registration	€2,500
Not a new vehicle but less than 2 years	€2,250
2 years or over but less than 3 years	€2,000
3 years or over but less than 4 years	€1,750
4 years or over but less than 5 years	€1,500
5 years or over but less than 6 years	€1,250
6 years or over but less than 7 years	€1,000
7 years or over but less than 8 years	€750
8 years or over but less than 9 years	€500
9 years or over but less than 10 years	€250
10 years or over	Nil

(4) A category A electric vehicle or a category B electric vehicle first registered during the period 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2010 is exempt from vehicle registration tax where the Commissioners are satisfied that such vehicle is a series production electric vehicle.

(5) An electric motorcycle first registered during the period 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2010 is exempt from vehicle registration tax where the Commissioners are satisfied that such vehicle is a series production electric motorcycle.”.