

Guidance for Importing E-bikes

Safety Requirements

Before you place e-bikes on the market, you have a legal duty to ensure the products you supply are safe.

You need to ensure the essential safety requirements below have been met:

- Manufacturers, their representatives, and importers must ensure that e-bikes meet the requirements of the Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 2008. This can be achieved by demonstrating e-bikes have been assessed against the most relevant safety standard **BS EN 15194:2017+A1:2023 Cycles. Electrically power assisted cycles- EPAC Bicycles**. Note: The EPAC standard, BS EN 15194 does not apply to e-bikes with a maximum continuous rated power over 0,25 kW and a speed over 25 km/h or 15.5 mph.
- If the product being manufactured and imported is an electric mountain bike you also need to take into consideration the additional requirements of **BS EN 17404:2022 Cycles. Electrically power assisted cycles. EPAC Mountain bikes. - Part 2: Specific requirements applicable to electric mountain bikes**.
- If the product being manufactured and imported is an electrically assisted carrier cycle (such as a cargo bike) or carrier trailer you also need to take into consideration the additional requirements of **BS EN 17860 Parts 1 to 7: Carrier cycles**.
- The battery within the e-bike must meet the appropriate safety standards for batteries, complying with **EN 50604-1:2016/A1:2021**.
- The charger for the product must meet the relevant safety requirements for electrical equipment intended for operation in a residential environment and comply with **BS EN IEC 60335-2-29:2021+A1:2021 Household and similar electrical appliances. Safety - Particular requirements for battery chargers**. Both the battery and the charger must be compatible to ensure there is no risk of over-heating and fire.
- This guidance applies to electrically powered cycles excluded from type approval by Regulation (EU) 168/2013. To be exempt from requiring Type Approval against Regulation (EU) 168/2013 an e-bike must meet the definition of a standard EPAC (250 W motor limit, pedal-assist only, cuts off at 25 km/h).

Labelling, including UKCA/CE mark

The product must be marked visibly and permanently with the following:

- Contact and address of the manufacturer or authorised representative
- Designation of series or type
- UKCA Mark and/or CE mark

- EPAC according to EN 15194
- Serial or identification number, if any
- Year of construction, i.e. year in which the manufacturing process is completed
- Cut off speed XX km/h;
- Maximum continuous rated power XX kW;
- Maximum permissible total weight
- Mass, if EPAC is more than 25kg

Refer to the full list of marking requirements in **BS EN 15194:2017+A1:2023**.

Warnings and Instructions

Instructions and information required for the legal and safe use of the e-bike must be provided. Instructions should be headed '**IMPORTANT! Read carefully and keep for future reference**'. Below are some of the instructions which must be present:

- Concept and description of electric assistance including varying levels of motor assistance
- Control and tell tales
- Specific EPAC recommendation for use (e.g. removal of the battery, temperature range for the use of the bicycle including battery, use of start-up assistance mode)
- Specific EPAC warnings (e.g. always remove the battery during maintenance, inappropriate use including manipulation of the electric management system)
- Recommendations about battery charging and charger use (e.g. temperature range for the battery storage, indoor or outdoor charging) as well as the importance of following the instruction contained on the label of the battery charger
- The meaning of symbol and tell tales used shall be explained in the instruction for use. Warning about contact with hot surfaces as for example disc brakes after heavy use
- The type of use for which EPAC has been designed (i.e. the type of terrain for which it is suitable) with a warning about the hazards of incorrect use. You may refer to **BS EN 17406:2020+A1:2021 Classification for bicycles usage**.
- The correct method of assembling any parts supplied unassembled
- Recommendations on general maintenance

Refer to the full list of instruction requirements in **BS EN 15194:2017+A1:2023**.

Compliance Documentation

The manufacturer or their authorised representative in the UK must show they have carried out relevant conformity assessment procedures to ensure their products are safe. They must draw up a technical file which includes documents such as risk assessments and test reports.

Once this has been completed the manufacturer or their authorised representative in the UK must issue a Declaration of Conformity. You should request and thoroughly check these documents before you purchase the goods. You must keep copies of this documentation for a period of 10 years. You must be able to provide copies on request to Market Surveillance Authorities.

A Declaration of Conformity should contain the following:

- Business name and full address of the manufacturer or his authorised representative
- Name and address of the person authorised to compile the technical file, who must be established in a relevant state
- Description and identification of the e-bike including function, model, type, serial number
- Confirmation the machinery meets the relevant requirements of the Regulations, along with any other relevant Regulations such as for the battery and charger
- References to the test standards used to assess the product, for example BS EN 15194
- If applicable the notified body 'name and number'
- Signed on behalf of the manufacturer with a date and place of the signature

A physical copy of the Declaration of Conformity must be supplied with the e-bike.

When you import goods into the UK, they can be subject to product safety checks at the border. In this instance you will be requested to provide some of the documents detailed below:

- A copy of the Declaration of Conformity issued by the manufacturer
- A copy of relevant test reports to demonstrate how the product was tested and the results of that testing
- Authorities may also request copies of a detailed packing list which should show the quantity of each item including number of pieces and cartons. Also, any marks or numbers which will enable each carton to be identified and located
- This information must be supplied in English

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When sourcing your products, you should:

- Buy from a reputable supplier and always obtain an invoice
- Make sure the product/packaging is marked with the name and address of the manufacturer
- Ask to see proof that the product is safe (a test certificate and Declaration of Conformity)