

ITEM T80/028

SUBJECT: SEAT BELT INERTIA REEL TEST

MODELS: TR7; TR8

Dealers are reminded that the seat belt inertia reel locking mechanism is vehicle movement activated both by hard braking or fast cornering and by a rapid movement of the belt from the reel mechanism.

The following extract from the TR7 and TR8 Maintenance Handbook details the methods for checking each operation.

1. INERTIA TEST - While seated, fasten the seat belt and grip the shoulder belt at approximately shoulder level with the opposite hand. Pull the belt sharply in a downwards direction, the belt should lock.
2. VEHICLE MOVEMENT TEST - Important: The following road test must be carried out only under maximum safe road conditions, i.e., on a dry, straight, traffic free road.

With the safety harness fitted to the driver and passenger as described in the driver's/owner's handbook, drive the car at 5 m.p.h. Ensuring that it is safe to do so, brake sharply. The safety harness should lock automatically, holding both driver and passenger securely in position.

It is important when braking that the reactions of both driver and passenger are normal, i.e., the body must not be thrown forward in anticipation, thus causing a "snatching" action of the belt which would operate the locking mechanism.

H.C.T.