§ 205.57–6 Acceptance and rejection of batches.

(a) The batch from which a batch sample is selected will be accepted or rejected based upon the number of failing vehicles in the batch sample. A sufficient number of test samples will be drawn from the batch sample until the cumulative number of failing vehicles is less than or equal to the acceptance number or greater than or equal to the rejection number appropriate for the cumulative number of vehicles tested.

(b) Acceptance or rejection of a batch takes place when the decision that a vehicle is a failing vehicle is made on the last vehicle required to make a decision under paragraph (a) of this section.

§ 205.57–7 Acceptance and rejection of batch sequence.

(a) The manufacturer will continue to inspect consecutive batches until the batch sequence is accepted or rejected based upon the number of rejected batches. A sufficient number of consecutive batches will be inspected until the cumulative number of rejected batches is less than or equal to the sequence acceptance number of greater than or equal to the sequence rejection number appropriate for the cumulative number of batches inspected. The acceptance and rejection numbers listed in Appendix I, Table III at the appropriate code letter obtained according to § 205.57–2 will be used in determining whether the acceptance or rejection of a batch sequence has occurred.

(b) Acceptance or rejection of a batch sequence takes place when the decision that a vehicle is a failing vehicle is made on the last vehicle required to make a decision under paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) If the batch sequence is accepted, the manufacturer will not be required to perform any additional testing on vehicles from subsequent batches pursuant to the initiating test request.
(d) The Administrator may terminate testing earlier than required in paragraph (b) of this section based on a request by the manufacturer accompanied by voluntary cessation of distribution in commerce, of vehicles from the category, configuration or subgroup in question manufactured at the plant which produced the vehicles under test: Provided, That before re-initiating distribution in commerce of vehicles from such plant of such vehicle category, configuration or subgroup, the manufacturer must take the action described in §205.57–9(a)(1) and (a)(2).


§ 205.57–8 Continued testing.

(a) If a batch sequence is rejected in accordance with paragraph (b) of §205.57–7, the Administrator may require that any or all vehicles of that category, configuration of subgroup thereof produced at that plant be tested before distribution in commerce.

(b) The Administrator will notify the manufacturer in writing of his intent to require such continued testing of vehicles pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) The manufacturer may request a hearing on the issues of whether the selective enforcement audit was conducted properly; whether the criteria for batch sequence rejection in §204.57–7 have been met; and, the appropriateness or scope of a continued testing order. In the event that a hearing is requested, the hearing shall begin no later than 15 days after the date on which the Administrator received the hearing request. Neither the request for a hearing nor the fact that a hearing is in progress shall affect the responsibility of the manufacturer to commence and continue testing required by the Administrator pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section.

(d) Any tested vehicle which demonstrated conformance with the applicable standards may be distributed into commerce.

(e) Any knowing distribution into commerce of a vehicle which does not comply with the applicable standards is a prohibited act.


§ 205.57–9 Prohibition on distribution in commerce; manufacturer’s remedy.

(a) The Administrator will permit the cessation of continued testing under §205.57–8 once the manufacturer has taken the following actions:

(1) Submit a written report to the Administrator which identifies the reason for the noncompliance of the vehicles, describes the problem and describes the proposed quality control and/or quality assurance remedies to be taken by the manufacturer to correct the problem or follows the requirements for an engineering change. Such requirements include the following:

(i) Any change to a configuration with respect to any of the parameters stated in §205.55–3 shall constitute the addition of a new and separate configuration or category to the manufacturer’s product line.

(ii) When a manufacturer introduces a new category or configuration to his product line, he shall proceed in accordance with §205.55–2.

(iii) If the configuration to be added can be grouped within a verified category and the new configuration is estimated to have a lower sound pressure level than a previously verified configuration within the same category, the configuration shall be considered verified.

(2) Demonstrates that the specified vehicle category, configuration or subgroup thereof has passed a retest conducted in accordance with §205.57 and the conditions specified in the initial test request.

(3) The manufacturer may begin testing under paragraph (a)(2) of this section upon submitting such report, and may cease continued testing upon making the demonstration required by paragraph (a)(2) of this section, provided that the Administrator may require resumption of continued testing if he determines that the manufacturer has not satisfied the requirements of paragraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this section.