

“P” 4 (2019)

“M” 5 (2019)

Albany, New York

June 14, 2019

TO: All Enforcement Agencies and Magistrates

SUBJECT: Chapter 478 of the Laws of 2018 – Speed Identification Symbol (SIS)

Effective June 26, 2019, Chapter 478 of the Laws of 2018 amends section 375(36) of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law (VTL) by requiring that a speed identification symbol (SIS) be displayed on farm machinery, implements of husbandry, and other machinery including road construction and maintenance machinery (collectively referred to as “machinery”).

New paragraphs (a)(ii) and (b)(ii) of section 375(36) require that machinery designed to operate at a speed greater than twenty-five (25) mph but less than forty (40) mph display a SIS and the slow moving vehicle emblem set forth in VTL section 375(36)(a)(i). The SIS must indicate the maximum speed in miles per hour at which the machinery is designed by its manufacturer to operate. The operator of the machinery must possess documentation from the manufacturer that indicates the maximum speed at which the machinery was designed to operate.

A copy of Chapter 478 is attached for reference. Please share this information with appropriate staff. Thank you.

Mark J.F. Schroeder
Commissioner

Attachment

LAWS OF NEW YORK, 2018

CHAPTER 478

AN ACT to amend the vehicle and traffic law, in relation to slow moving vehicles

Became a law December 28, 2018, with the approval of the Governor.

Passed by a majority vote, three-fifths being present.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subdivision 36 of section 375 of the vehicle and traffic law, as added by chapter 322 of the laws of 1969, paragraph (b) as amended by chapter 350 of the laws of 2008, is amended to read as follows:

36. (a) (i) The slow-moving vehicle emblem as developed by the American Society of Agricultural **and Biological** Engineers shall be recognized as the official state slow moving vehicle emblem. The commissioner of motor vehicles shall adopt standards and specifications for design, creation and use, in conformance with those recommendations of the American Society of Agricultural **and Biological** Engineers for the size, design and mounting of said slow-moving vehicle emblem.

(ii) **The commissioner shall adopt standards and specifications for design, creation and use, in conformance with those recommendations of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers standard which meets the criteria of the American National Standards Institute/American Society for Testing and Materials S584 for the size, design and mounting of a speed identification symbol. A speed identification symbol shall indicate the maximum speed in miles per hour at which the unit of farm machinery, implement of husbandry and other machinery including road construction and maintenance machinery to which it is mounted is designed by its manufacturer to operate.**

(b) (i) Farm machinery and implements of husbandry and other machinery including road construction and maintenance machinery designed to operate at twenty-five miles per hour or less, traveling on a public highway during day or night, whether self-propelled or used in combination, shall each separately display a slow-moving vehicle emblem as specified in paragraph (a) of this subdivision.

(ii) (A) **Farm machinery and implements of husbandry and other machinery including road construction and maintenance machinery designed to operate at a speed greater than twenty-five miles per hour but less than forty miles per hour, traveling on a public highway during day or night, whether self-propelled or used in combination, shall each separately display a slow-moving vehicle emblem and a speed identification symbol as specified in paragraph (a) of this subdivision.**

(B) **If an agricultural tractor that is designed by its manufacturer to operate at a speed greater than twenty-five miles per hour but not greater than forty miles per hour is being operated on a street or highway at a speed greater than twenty-five miles per hour but less than forty miles per hour and is towing, pulling, or otherwise drawing a unit of farm machinery, the unit of farm machinery shall display a slow-mov-**

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

CHAP. 478

2

ing vehicle emblem and a speed identification symbol that is the same as the speed identification symbol that is displayed on the agricultural tractor.

(C) When an agricultural tractor is designed by its manufacturer to operate at a speed greater than twenty-five miles per hour but less than forty miles per hour is being operated on a street or highway at a speed greater than twenty-five miles per hour, the operator shall possess some documentation published or provided by the manufacturer indicating the maximum speed in miles per hour at which the manufacturer designed the agricultural tractor to operate.

(c) The use of such emblem and symbol shall be in addition to any lighting devices, flags or other equipment required by law. Such emblem and symbol shall be used only on farm machinery and implements of husbandry on road construction and maintenance machinery, and on such other vehicles, machinery and equipment as may be specified in regulations issued by the commissioner. All use shall be in accordance with such regulations. Use of such emblem as a clearance marker or on stationary objects on the highways is prohibited.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.