Testing automated vehicles in Finland

Testing of automated vehicles (SAE levels 0–5) is possible in road traffic in Finland using a test plate certificate.

In testing automated vehicles, the vehicle must have a driver either inside or outside the vehicle.

In liability issues, the driver is the person who makes decisions on the movement of the vehicle.

**Acquiring a test plate certificate**

An enterprise, agency or other organisation engaged in research and development of automated vehicles may apply to Trafi for a test plate certificate. The certificate entitles the bearer to drive test vehicles, to a limited extent and on a temporary basis, both in road traffic and off-road.

For testing in road traffic, Trafi will issue test plates.

**Temporary use exempt from taxes**

The holder of a test plate certificate for automated vehicle trials may operate a vehicle with test plates in road traffic on a temporary basis without being liable for car and vehicle tax on that vehicle.

**Certificate is valid for one year**

The test plate certificate is valid for one year from the date of issue, and it is automatically renewed annually.
Applying to Trafi for a test plate certificate

Applications for a test plate certificate should be submitted on the form found on the Trafi website at http://www.trafi.fi/en/road/automated_vehicles_trials

Appendices to the application

A Trade Register extract from the company’s country of incorporation not more than three months old must be appended to the application.

The applicant must also enclose a trial plan that includes:
- a general description of the trials
- technical specifications of the test vehicles
- information on the road area where the trials are intended to be conducted
- proof of insurance cover for third party liability
- description of how road safety will be ensured

The test plate certificate costs EUR 300, and the associated test plates cost EUR 9 each.

Submitting the application

Submit the application with appendices to:
automatedvehicles@trafi.fi

or

Finnish Transport Safety Agency (Trafi)
Registration decisions
PO Box 320
FI-00101 HELSINKI

Reporting

The test plate certificate holder must submit a report to Trafi on the trial results. The report should describe e.g. how the trial plan was implemented and what kind of deviations from the plan were encountered.

Read more: www.trafi.fi/en/road/automated_vehicles_trials

Future information: automatedvehicles@trafi.fi

Statutory basis

Vehicle Act, section 66f (1090/2002)
Government Decree on Vehicle Registration, section 32 (893/2007)
Vehicle Tax Act, section 35(1)8 (1482/1994)