

Tourism Holdings Limited
The Beach House
Level 1, 83 Beach Road
Auckland City
PO Box 4293, Shortland Street
Auckland 1140, New Zealand

Tel: +64 9 336 4299
Email: info@thlnz.co.nz
www.thlonline.com



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TOURISM HOLDINGS LIMITED (thl)
NZX RELEASE

German Wholesaler Driver Licence Interpretation

Tourism Holdings Limited (**thl**) has been advised by one German wholesaler of tourism products that they believe German tourists travelling in a foreign country can only drive vehicles up to the weight of the maximum permitted for the class of licence held by the tourist in their home country. The assertion applies to all of **thl's** current operating markets.

Given that some of this information is public, **thl** wishes to clarify its position on this matter.

The view of the German wholesaler is very different from that followed for decades in many countries in the world. To date, it has been broadly accepted that a tourist can drive a vehicle in a foreign country that is permitted by the equivalent class of licence to their home licence - so that the weight limits of the country they are visiting will apply. **thl** believes this makes sense as the weight limits for vehicles relevant to a class of licence in any country typically reflect the driving conditions of that country.

thl does not accept the German wholesaler's view which appears to assume that German laws will effectively apply in other sovereign jurisdictions around the globe. In fact, each sovereign state makes and enforces its own laws, including laws that provide for foreign drivers. **thl** has advised the German wholesaler of its difference of view. However, the German wholesaler has elected to advise its customers of its own view. It is possible that this may impact on **thl's** future sales through this channel although **thl** is taking steps to minimise any potential disruption and seeking to clarify the position so that customers may hire vehicles with confidence.

thl understands that, for German and many other EU drivers, the issue is largely limited to drivers who were licensed for the first time after 1 January 1999, when the weight limits were reduced from 7.5t to 3.5t. EU drivers who were licensed before that date, who are presently the majority of **thl's** EU customers, remain entitled to drive vehicles up to a gross laden weight of 7.5t.

The matter is considered most relevant in the USA, where the vehicles that **thl** hires are generally a greater weight than the standard German or other EU car licence conditions allow in Germany / the EU.

Self drive experiences

New Zealand
Australia
USA
UK

Design & manufacturing

New Zealand
Australia

Guided experiences

New Zealand



There have been no adverse impacts to the business to date and all other trade partners are continuing to operate as normal under our current long standing arrangements and understandings.

thl is considering possible workarounds to address this matter while a resolution is sought.

thl is also liaising with its insurers to ensure that its insurance cover is not affected by this matter. To date the insurers have indicated that they are supportive of **thl's** position.

As this is an industry matter, **thl** is working with other operators to address it.

END

Authorised by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Campbell', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Rob Campbell
Chairman
Tourism Holdings Limited

For further information contact:

Grant Webster
thl Chief Executive
Direct Dial: +64 9 336 4255 | Mobile: +64 21 449 210

Mark Davis
thl Chief Financial Officer
Direct Dial: +64 9 336 4212 | Mobile +64 27 444 0199