

OC250120

3 March 2025



I refer to your email dated 18 February 2025, requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“please provide signed ministers approval and supporting documents for the Draeger Interlock XT.”

The following documents fall within the scope of your request and are attached:

1. OC00818-ATC24260 Briefing: Alcohol Interlock Device Approval
2. OC00818-ATC24214 Briefing: Alcohol Interlock Device Approval

The two documents are detailed in the document schedule attached as Annex 1. The schedule outlines how the documents you requested have been treated under the Act.

Certain information is withheld under the following sections of the Act:
9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons

Regarding the supporting information for the Draeger Interlock XT, this is publicly available on the Draeger website, including product information and a summary of the device's certification with the Australian Standard. This information can be found here:
https://www.draeger.com/en_aunz/Products/Interlock-XT

With regard to the information that has been withheld under section 9 of the Act, I am satisfied that the reasons for withholding the information at this time are not outweighed by public interest considerations that would make it desirable to make the information available.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this response by the Ombudsman, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on the Ombudsman's website www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

The Ministry publishes our Official Information Act responses, and the information contained in our reply to you may be published on the Ministry's website. Before publishing we will remove any personal or identifiable information.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Heard', with a stylized, cursive script.

Joanna Heard
Manager, Safety

Annex 1 – Document schedule

Doc #	Document	Title of document	Date	Decision on release
1	OC00818_ATC24260	Alcohol Interlock Device Approval	28 May 2012	Certain information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
2	OC00818_ATC24214	Alcohol Interlock Device Approval	31 May 2012	Certain information withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.



RECEIVED
28 MAY 2012
Office Hon. Simon Bridges

BRIEFING

ALCOHOL INTERLOCK DEVICE APPROVAL

Reason for this briefing	This report seeks your approval of the alcohol interlock devices to be used in the alcohol interlock programme.
Action required	Consult with the Minister of Science and Innovation, Hon Steven Joyce, before approving the devices.
Deadline	Friday 15 June 2012
Reason for Deadline	The devices must be approved before the legislative provisions are brought into force by Order in Council. We are working towards having a paper for Cabinet Legislation Committee (LEG) in late June.

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone	First Contact
Kathryn MacIver	Senior Adviser	Direct Line After Hours	✓
David Eyre	Policy Manager Programme		

MINISTER'S COMMENTS:

Seen and agreed



Date:	28 May 2012	Briefing Number:	OC00818
Attention:	Hon Simon Bridges (Associate Minister of Transport)	Security level:	In-Confidence

Minister of Transport's office actions

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noted | <input type="checkbox"/> Seen | <input type="checkbox"/> Approved |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change | <input type="checkbox"/> Referred to | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn | <input type="checkbox"/> Not seen by Minister | <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by events |

Purpose of report

1. The report seeks your approval of the alcohol interlock devices that will be used in the alcohol interlock programme for drink-drive offenders.

Comment

2. The Land Transport (Road Safety and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2011 authorises the Minister of Transport, in consultation with the Minister of Science and Innovation, to approve alcohol interlock devices for use in the alcohol interlock programme.
3. Officials have selected two preferred suppliers for interlocks from an expression of interest. The two preferred suppliers are Draeger Safety Pacific Pty Ltd (Draeger) and Sober Check Ltd. As part of the selection process, the suppliers had to demonstrate that the devices they intend to use were approved to the Australian standard (AS 3547:1997 - Breath alcohol testing devices for personal use), and that the device is used in one or more jurisdictions.

Alcohol interlock devices

4. The Draeger device is described as the **Dräger Interlock XT** (German spelling of Draeger is used in the device description). Within Australia, it is currently in use in five States, with more than 4,500 active participants. Prior certification of the device under the Australian standard was required for participation in these official programmes. As well, Draeger devices are used in a number of European countries and some states in the USA.
5. The device intended to be used by Sober Check Ltd is manufactured by Smart Start Inc, which is based in the USA. The device is described as the **Smart Start Model SSI-2020**. This device is in service in 15 countries across the world, with the primary focus being programmes run within various states within the USA.
6. The technical specifications of both these devices and copies of the Australian standard (AS 3547:1997 - Breath alcohol testing devices for personal use) certifications are attached to this briefing.

Next steps

7. After the interlock devices have been approved, the Ministry of Transport will arrange for a Gazette notice to be prepared, which will set out the specifications for the devices.

Recommendations

8. The recommendations are that you:

- (a) **Consult** with the Minister of Science and Innovation, Hon Steven Joyce, on the approval of the alcohol interlock devices Yes/No
- (b) **Approve** the use of the Dräger Interlock XT and the Smart Start Model SSI-2020 for use in the New Zealand alcohol interlock programme. Yes/No



Kathryn MacIver
Senior Adviser



David Eyre
Policy Manager Programme

MINISTER'S SIGNATURE:

DATE:

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982



**STANDARDSMARK
LICENCE**

SAI Global hereby grants:

1A Smart Start Inc.

4850 Plaza Drive, IRVING, TEXAS, TX United States of America

And

Nationwide Interlocks Pty Ltd

49 Mologa Road, WEST HEIDELBERG, VIC 3081, Australia

"Jointly the Licensee"

StandardsMark Licence

Manufactured to:

AS 3547:1997 - Breath alcohol testing devices for personal use

"The StandardsMark Licensee" the right to use the STANDARDSMARK as shown below only in respect of the goods described and detailed in the Schedule which are produced by the Licensee or on behalf of the Licensee and which comply with the appropriate Standard referred to above as from time to time amended. The License is granted subject to the rules governing the use of the STANDARDSMARK and the Terms and Conditions for certification and licence. The Licensee covenants to comply with all the Rules and Terms and Conditions.

Certificate No: SMKH21515

Issued: 13 October 2011

Expires: 5 May 2014

Originally Certified: 6 May 2009

Current Certification: 13 October 2011

Duncan Liley
Global Head - Assurance Services

Alex Strathmore
General Manager - Certification Services



* For details of manufacture, refer to the licensee

The STANDARDSMARK is a registered certification trademark of SAI Global Limited (A.C.N. 050 844 642) and is issued under licence by SAI Global Certification Services Pty Limited (A.C.N. 106 716 669) ("SAI Global") 286 Sussex Street, Sydney NSW 2000, GPO Box 5420 Sydney NSW 2001. This certificate remains the property of SAI Global and must be returned to SAI Global upon its request. Refer to www.sai-global.com for the list of product models.



SCHEDULE TO STANDARDSMARK LICENCE

SAI Global hereby grants:

1A Smart Start Inc.

4850 Plaza Drive, IRVING, TEXAS, TX United States of America

And

Nationwide Interlocks Pty Ltd

49 Mologa Road, WEST HEIDELBERG, VIC 3081, Australia

StandardsMark Licence

Manufactured to:

AS 3547:1997 - Breath alcohol testing devices for personal use

Model Identification of the goods on which the STANDARDSMARK may be used

Type	Model Name	Calibration Period (Months)	Calibration Type	Date Endorsed
3	SMART START Model In-HOM	1	gas alcohol system	12 Oct 2011
4	SMART START Model SSI-2020	1	gas alcohol system	8 Dec 2010

End of Record

Certificate No: SMKH21515

Issued Date: 13 October 2011

This schedule supersedes all previously issued schedules

* For details of manufacture, refer to the licensee

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SSI-2020



Our SSI-2020 includes many technological improvements and can be combined with our patented positive digital photo identification of the user. Additionally, the SSI-2020 interfaces with the vehicles on board diagnostics (OBD-II) to bring a new level of information and ease of installation to the interlock market. Smart Start holds a patent on both of these technologies.*

This unit can be combined with the Photo ID camera module, which is a small, approximately 1 cubic inch box that is mounted to the inside of the driver's side windshield, about halfway up from the dash. The device captures a picture of the breath test subject at the time that the subject is taking the test. The unit stores the picture electronically and it date and time stamps in combination with the interlock unit's logger. The particular camera chosen works well in very dark situations as well as bright sunlight, such as in convertibles.



By using the Photo ID module, Smart Start is able to positively identify the user of the device and minimize tampering, since a picture is being recorded. The device has several tamper detection features to prevent the user from covering the camera with tape or disconnecting it. When tampering is detected, the unit will send a message to the interlock aborting the test, thus preventing the user from starting the vehicle.



Actual Sample Photo

Features of the SSI-2020:

- Small, convenient size
- Numeric keypad allows easy recall of appointment date and time
- Allows entry of lockout code to temporarily extend service appointment after lockout, preventing the extra cost of a tow bill or service call
- Modular components provide easier installation and service
- Fully programmable options, including restricted drive times, if required

- Built-in microchip records all test results, engine starts and stops, disconnections, and tampering for later review
- Optional integration with Smart Start's patented Photo ID camera module makes identification of the user easy

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982

SSI 20/20 Ignition Interlock Device

SSI 20/20 Model Specifications

Display	12 digit x 2 line LCD
Anti-circumvention	Voice tone, Dual Pressure sensors
Memory Non-battery backed Flash	Can hold up to 65,000 events indefinitely and does not require a backup battery.
Hand unit size & weight:	5.37 X 2.87 x 1.5 (inches) 6.3 Oz
Logger size	5 x 3.3 x 1.75(inches)
Camera Unit Size	5.1 x 2.5 x 1 (Inches)

Normal Operating Conditions

Power Requirements: (Battery Voltage)	Volts 8.0 to 15.0 Volts DC Current: < 2.0 amps at warm-up, < .01 amps in standby
Relay Amperage: (sustained)	40 Amp Starter Relay
Relay Amperage : (sustained)	10 Amp Horn and Light Relays
Sensor Type:	Electrochemical Fuel cell
Ambient Operating temperature:	-40 C to +85 C * may require removal of head unit

Programmable Operational Features

Breath sample requirements:	Adjustable (typical is ≥ 1.5 Liters)
Fail Levels	Three available for initial tests and three available for rolling retests.
Lockout Feature	Five lockout features fully programmable.
Lockout Date:	Programmable up to 100 years
Rolling Retests:	Separate definable, random times for first and subsequent tests
Lockouts:	2 temporary and 2 permanent are available. Each is fully programmable
Restricted Driving Time Periods:	Six sets of allowable drive times per day. All independent, 7 days per week
Unlock codes:	A code for remote unlocking of the device by the client without circumventing the device. Code is different for every unit and is only valid one time. The length of time extended is programmable
2 Secondary Relays:	Allows for horn hookup (positive and negative types) and/or external signal device such as lights or sirens
Calibration Requirements:	Programmable, up to 1 year

Model Description

The Smart Start SSI 20/20 Ignition Interlock device is a breath alcohol analyzer that is connected to a motor vehicle's ignition system. To start the vehicle's engine, the driver must first blow and pass a deep lung breath sample into the Hand unit. The interlock will measure the alcohol concentration of the breath sample and based upon programmable pass/fail limits will allow or prevent the vehicle from starting. Random rolling retests are programmable into the unit after the vehicle is in motion.

The 20/20 records and time/date stamps all breath test results, driving times, disconnections and tamper attempts. An optional Camera unit can be installed that will take a picture of the testing subject for identity verification.

Physical System Components

The SSI 20/20 System Includes:

- Head unit
- Relay unit
- Optional Camera Unit
- Interconnect cables
- Wiring harness

Head Unit

The Head unit is the hand-held user interface for the breathalyzer. The head unit contains the breath test and analysis system, a processor, flash memory, and local regulators. Visual and audio alerts for tests and results are provided via an LCD display, bi-color LEDs and a piezo-element.

The LCD displays various system messages including when to blow a test, the results of that test, and any service related information. Other information can also be displayed, as needed.

A twelve-button keypad is integrated into the head and provides several functions to both the user and to the installer of the device. The functions of the keypad include:

The key pad has multiple purposes and can add features and services not available in other units without a full keypad

RELAY Unit

The Relay Unit is the lower part of the system usually hidden under the dash of the vehicle out of view of the user. The relay unit is wired into the vehicles system to provide control and monitoring of the vehicle.

The relay unit provides regulated power to the 20/20 and a backup log for safety.

Camera Unit

The Camera unit is an optional feature that can be added to the 20/20 Interlock system. The Camera unit is comprised of the Camera Control Unit (CCU) and the Camera Interface Unit (CIU). System communications and Power is supplied via a cable interface between the Relay unit and the CCU.

The CCU contains a processor, RAM and flash memory for data processing, and storage. There are voltage regulators to convert overall system voltage to levels appropriate for component and processor levels.

The CIU is a separate device containing a 1.5M pixel CMOS camera sensor and a voltage regulator for the sensor. The CIU is attached to the CCU via a flat ribbon cable that provides a data bus, a control bus and power for the CMOS sensor.

When a breath test is taken with the Hand Unit, the CCU is alerted to capture a picture of the test subject. The CCU signals the CIU to take the picture and the picture is automatically transferred from the sensor to the CCU for processing and storage on flash memory for later retrieval.

Interconnect Cables

A shielded cable is supplied for connection of the head unit to the relay unit.

A shielded cable is supplied for connection of the Camera Unit to the relay unit.

A wiring harness is supplied with each Relay Unit to connect the Relay to the vehicles electrical and ignition system. The design allows for ease of installation and modular replacement.

Standards and Operating Parameters

The 20/20 meets or exceeds all specifications required by;

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHSTA).

Federal Register, Vol. 57, No. 67 "Model Specifications for Breath Alcohol Ignition Interlock Devices" April 7, 1992. [Docket No. 97-07, notice 2]

Cenelec EN 50436-1

Alcohol Interlocks - Test Methods and Performance requirements Part1:
Instruments for drink-driving-offender programs.

Cenelec EN 50436-2

Alcohol Interlocks - Test Methods and Performance requirements Part2:
Instruments having a mouthpiece and measuring breath alcohol for general preventive use.

Document History

revision	change	author	Release date
Rev 001	Initial release	rkg	03/02/2010



STANDARDSMARK LICENCE

SAI Global hereby grants to:

Draeger Safety Pacific Pty Ltd

Unit 99-97/45 Gilby Road, NOTTING HILL, VIC, Australia

And

Revalstrasse 1, LUEBECK, Germany

"the Licensee" the right to use the STANDARDSMARK as shown above only in respect of the goods described and detailed in the Schedule which are produced by the licensee or on behalf of the Licensee* and which comply with the appropriate Standard referred to below as from time to time amended. The Licence is granted subject to the rules governing the use of the STANDARDSMARK and the Terms and Conditions for certification and licence. The Licensee covenants to comply with all the Rules and Terms and Conditions.

Manufactured to:

AS 3547:1997 - Breath alcohol testing devices for personal use

* For details of manufacture, refer to the licensee

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Licence No.: SMK02553

Issue Date: 8 February 2008

Certified Date: 22 November 2002

Expiry Date: 20 November 2012

Alex Ezrakhovich - General Manager Certification
For and on behalf of SAI Global

Authorised Local Signatory, SAI Global



STANDARDSMARK SCHEDULE

Draeger Safety Pacific Pty Ltd

Manufactured by:
Unit 99-97/45 Gilby Road, NOTTING HILL, VIC, Australia

And
Revalstrasse 1, LUEBECK, Germany

AS 3547:1997 - Breath alcohol testing devices for personal use

Model identification of the goods on which the STANDARDSMARK may be used:

Type	Model Name	Calibration Period (Months)	Calibration Type	Unit of Measure	Date Endorsed
2	Alcotest 6510	6 months	Manufacturer	g/100ml.	3 May 2005
2	Alcotest 6810	6 months	Manufacturer	g/100ml.	27 Jul 2005
2	Alcotest 7410 Plus	6 months	Manufacturer	g/100ml.	22 Nov 2002
2	Alcotest 7410 Plus Com	6 months	Manufacturer	g/100ml.	22 Nov 2002
2	Alcotest 7410 Plus RS	6 months	Manufacturer	g/100ml.	22 Nov 2002
4	Interlock XT	6 months	Manufacturer	g/100ml.	22 Nov 2002

End of Record

Alex Gzakhovich - General Manager Certification
Furnish on behalf of SAI Global

Licence No.: SMK02553

Authorised Local Signatory, SAI Global

Issue Date: 8 February 2008

This schedule supersedes all previously issued schedules



Dräger Interlock XT

The Dräger Interlock XT is a breath-alcohol measuring instrument with a vehicle immobilizer. After taking a breath alcohol measurement, it prohibits a driver who has consumed alcohol from starting the motor. By installing a Dräger Interlock XT, you can avoid accidents caused by alcohol consumption. Additionally, long-term changes in the drinking attitude may be an added benefit.



COMPONENTS

The Dräger Interlock XT comprises two main components: the breath-alcohol measuring instrument with the measuring system, which is situated inside the vehicle, and the control unit which is generally installed under the dashboard and allows or prevents current being supplied to the vehicle's starter system.

OPERATION

When the ignition is switched on, the Dräger Interlock XT requests a breath sample from the driver. The result of the breath-alcohol concentration measurement determines whether the vehicle's starter is released and the engine can be started.

APPLICATION

Car drivers find long waits after switching on the ignition particularly annoying. Therefore, during development of the Dräger Interlock XT, particular attention was paid to ensuring that the instrument would be ready for use quickly.

Because the Dräger Interlock XT even works perfectly at -45 °C (during the Scandinavian winter, for example) and at 85 °C (in blazing sunlight, for example), it was given the name "XT", for "eXtended Temperature".

MEASURING TECHNIQUE

The Dräger Interlock XT determines the breath alcohol concentration by means of an electrochemical sensor system, as it is used also in breath-alcohol measuring instruments of police authorities. It reacts with high specificity to alcohol. As a result, other exhaled substances do not distort the measurement result.

DATA STORAGE

While the vehicle is in use, all relevant events are recorded in the Dräger Interlock XT's data log: date, time, submission of or refusal to submit a breath sample, measured alcohol concentration, engine starts and stops, electrical bypassing of the Interlock and any other attempts to tamper with the device. The data can be downloaded and compiled in a data record.

MANIPULATION

The use of auxiliary means to circumvent the Dräger Interlock XT, as for example an air pump, is reliably detected and starting the motor is prevented.



Dräger Interlock XT
A safe start



HOW TO USE



1. Turn ignition on



2. Receive request to blow into Dräger Interlock XT



3. Measurement of breath alcohol concentration takes place



4. Accepted breath sample: motor starter is enabled



5. Start motor

BREATH ALCOHOL MEASUREMENT

Dräger is world market leader in breath alcohol measurement. The Alcotest® family of products is the most successful breath alcohol measuring instrument world-wide.

The well known Alcotest tube with the sample bag is probably the oldest method of obtaining proof of alcohol consumption. Today, most alcohol detection devices are electronic.

They are used on all five continents for traffic safety by police authorities, for work-place alcohol testing, as well as aiding in the diagnosis of medical patients.

Dräger's long term experience and time proven measuring technique establishes the basis of the Dräger Interlock XT.



Dräger Interlock XT
Use in a bus



Dräger Interlock XT
Fits in the dashboard



Dräger Interlock XT
Use in private car

TECHNICAL DATA

Measuring principle	Electrochemical sensor
Ambient conditions for operation	Temperature -45 to 85 °C (-49 °F to 185 °F)
Ready for test	< 20 sec. (above 20 °C / 68 °F) < 3 min. (at -40 °C / -40 °F)
Display	graphic LC-display in the handset with full text messages
Calibration interval	typically 12 months
Data memory	in control unit, for more than 30.000 events
Dimensions (H x W x D)	Handset approx. 180 mm x 70 mm x 40 mm Control unit approx. 115 mm x 105 mm x 40 mm
Weight	Handset approx. 175 g Control unit approx. 320 g
Voltage supply	12 to 24 V; Starter relay may switch up to 48 V
Relay for the load starter relay	< 18 A, continuous; < 40 A, peak
Current consumption	< 2 A; maximum; < 20 mA; stand-by
Approvals	General German Operating Permission (Allgemeine Betriebslaubnis) EN 50438-1: 2005, EN 50438-2: 2007 e-Mark (EU Directive 72/245/EEC with last applicable amendment)

ORDER INFORMATION

Dräger Interlock XT	83 19 500
Breath alcohol controlled vehicle immobilizer (handset and control unit) for installation in motor vehicles, mouthpieces (5 pieces) and mounting accessories	
Mouthpieces with non-return valve (5 pieces) separately packed	59 10 478
Mouthpieces with non-return valve (300 pieces) separately packed	66 11 325
Mouthpieces without non-return valve (50 pieces) separately packed	66 12 288
Mouthpieces without non-return valve (300 pieces) separately packed	66 11 816
Mouthpiece caps (1000 pieces) per 20 pieces in bag	68 11 483



ALCOHOL INTERLOCK DEVICE APPROVAL

Reason for this briefing	This report seeks your approval of the alcohol interlock devices to be used in the alcohol interlock programme.
Action required	Consult with the Minister of Science and Innovation, Hon Steven Joyce, before approving the devices.
Deadline	Friday 15 June 2012
Reason for Deadline	The devices must be approved before the legislative provisions are brought into force by Order in Council. We are working towards having a paper for Cabinet Legislation Committee (LEG) in late June.

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone		First Contact
		Direct Line	After Hours	
Kathryn MacIver	Senior Adviser	s 9(2)(a)		✓
David Eyre	Policy Manager Programme			

MINISTER'S COMMENTS:

Date:	28 May 2012	Briefing Number:	OC00818
Attention:	Hon Simon Bridges (Associate Minister of Transport)	Security level:	In-Confidence

Minister of Transport's office actions

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noted | <input type="checkbox"/> Seen | <input type="checkbox"/> Approved |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change | <input type="checkbox"/> Referred to | |
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Purpose of report

1. The report seeks your approval of the alcohol interlock devices that will be used in the alcohol interlock programme for drink-drive offenders.

Comment

2. The Land Transport (Road Safety and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2011 authorises the Minister of Transport, in consultation with the Minister of Science and Innovation, to approve alcohol interlock devices for use in the alcohol interlock programme.
3. Officials have selected two preferred suppliers for interlocks from an expression of interest. The two preferred suppliers are Draeger Safety Pacific Pty Ltd (Draeger) and Sober Check Ltd. As part of the selection process, the suppliers had to demonstrate that the devices they intend to use were approved to the Australian standard (AS 3547:1997 - Breath alcohol testing devices for personal use), and that the device is used in one or more jurisdictions.

Alcohol interlock devices

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Next steps

7. After the interlock devices have been approved, the Ministry of Transport will arrange for a Gazette notice to be prepared, which will set out the specifications for the devices.

Recommendations

8. The recommendations are that you:

- (a) **Consult** with the Minister of Science and Innovation, Hon Steven Joyce, on ☒ Yes/No the approval of the alcohol interlock devices
- (b) **Approve** the use of the Dräger Interlock XT and the Smart Start Model SSL- ☒ Yes/No 2020 for use in the New Zealand alcohol interlock programme.



Kathryn MacIver
Senior Adviser



David Eyre
Policy Manager Programme

MINISTER'S SIGNATURE:



DATE: 31 May 2012

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982