

EU wants life-saver tests on cars, motorbikes

July 12 2012

Bent on saving hundreds of lives lost on Europe's roads each year due to faulty vehicles and motorbikes, the EU will call for tougher technical tests in proposals to be unveiled Friday.

"Five people die on Europe's roads every day in [accidents](#) linked to technical faults," said [European Commission](#) spokeswoman Pia Ahrenkilde Hansen, announcing new rules Friday to toughen up and widen out testing regulations.

A key suggestion will be to extend regular vehicle checks across the [European Union](#) to two- and three-wheel vehicles, not the case in a number of countries -- Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal and Romania.

The EU executive will call for vehicles to undergo a first technical test after four years, with a second at six and yearly checks subsequently for vehicles over six years old.

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Citation: EU wants life-saver tests on cars, motorbikes (2012, July 12) retrieved 11 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2012-07-eu-life-saver-cars-motorbikes.html>

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