



**LATIN AMERICAN & CARIBBEAN NEW CAR ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME  
(Latin NCAP)**

**CAR SPECIFICATION, SPONSORSHIP,  
TESTING AND RETESTING PROTOCOL**

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#### **AKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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## CAR SPECIFICATION, SPONSORSHIP, TESTING AND RETESTING PROTOCOL

### Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>SPECIFICATIONS OF CARS TO BE TESTED .....</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	Introduction.....	3
2.2	Definitions .....	3
2.3	Cars sponsored by Latin NCAP.....	4
2.4	Cars sponsored by car manufacturers .....	4
2.4.1	Introduction .....	5
2.4.2	Fitment of non-standard safety equipment .....	5
<b>3</b>	<b>POST TEST.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>ACQUISITIONS OF THE CARS TO BE TESTED.....</b>	<b>6</b>
4.1	Cars models offered to consumers .....	6
4.2	New car models.....	6
<b>5</b>	<b>CHOICE OF TEST LABORATORY.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>FITMENT OF NON-STANDARD OR PROTOTYPE COMPONENTS.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>FAILURE OF TEST OR SAFETY EQUIPMENT.....</b>	<b>7</b>
7.1	Re-test .....	7
7.2	Re-assessment.....	7
7.2.1	New cars .....	8
7.2.2	Cars already on sale .....	8
<b>8</b>	<b>PUBLICATIONS.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>CONTRACT.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>SECRETARIAT DISCRETION .....</b>	<b>9</b>
	<b>Annex 1.....</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>Annex 2.....</b>	<b>11</b>

## 1 INTRODUCTION

This protocol details Latin NCAP's procedures relating to the specification of cars to be tested, their sponsorship, the testing arrangements and the circumstances when retesting is allowed.

## 2 SPECIFICATIONS OF CARS TO BE TESTED

### 2.1 Introduction

When Latin NCAP started, it was agreed that the greatest advertising appeal to consumers would be achieved by testing the "best selling variant" of car models available on the market. In Latin America, the best selling variant often translates to most the affordable variant which has only basic safety equipment. One of the objectives of Latin NCAP is to improve the safety levels offered as standard on the market. For this reason, Latin NCAP selects the most basic safety equipment that is on sale in any of the countries in Latin NCAP market. Latin NCAP also allows the manufacturer to demonstrate the advantage of better equipped variants, however star rating for the better equipped variant will not be published until this equipment becomes standard in all model range.

### 2.2 Definitions

"Variant" is defined as a unique combination of body style, engine and equipment grade or specification. An illustration is given in Annex 1.

"Model Range" is defined as all the variants (i.e. all body styles, engine and equipment grades) available across Latin NCAP markets under a common model name or under a different name but same structure.

"Safety Equipment" is defined as that equipment which is overtly aimed at improving safety. It includes but is not necessarily limited to:

- Restraint systems, including head restraints, child restraints and anchorages
- Knee and leg protection
- Breakaway pedal arrangements
- Pedestrian friendly devices, unless they are only required for particular engine compartment packages
- Seat belt reminder systems
- Safety marking/labels and switches
- Autonomous Emergency Braking Systems (AEB)
- Lane Support Systems (LSS)
- Blind Spot Detection systems (BSD)
- Speed Assist Systems (SAS)

It does not include:

- Engine/transmission volume
- Road wheel/tyre size
- Sun roof

"Latin NCAP markets" means South and Central America plus Mexico.

### **2.3 Cars sponsored by Latin NCAP**

Latin NCAP Board members collectively decide which cars will be selected for testing. In principle, any car on sale in any of the Latin America and Caribbean markets, whether old or recently released, is eligible for testing unless it has been rated before in the previous 2 years. Latin NCAP selects the most basic safety equipped version of any car available in any Latin NCAP market. Latin NCAP can decide to audit any model at any time.

Results will be valid of maximum of 4 years as from the day that the result was published.

Latin NCAP's 2019-2023 protocol involves a more comprehensive set of tests and assessments compared to previous protocols. These new aspects will result in a more holistic approach to vehicle safety in the Latin American and Caribbean Countries. Higher star rated vehicles will be required not only to have a good performance in adult and child occupant protection (passive), but in other aspects such as rear impact structural integrity, whiplash protection, pedestrian protection and driving assistance technologies.

The following tests might be required to be sponsored by the Manufacturer, even when the vehicle is selected by Latin NCAP for a full assessment:

- Whiplash Test
  - The manufacturer will be required to supply Latin NCAP with details about the full range of seats available for that model of vehicle and of any differences between the driver and front passenger's seats in the most basic version when they might influence Whiplash protection. Latin NCAP will choose whether to test the driver's or front passenger's seat. Where no significant differences exist, this will be on a random basis. Where there are differences, the seat considered least likely to offer good protection will be chosen.
  - At least three seats are required for Whiplash testing, which may be procured separately from the vehicle. The manufacturer might be responsible for providing the seats in due time as well as all the geometric and setup measurements also in due time.
- Pedestrian Protection
  - The manufacturer might be responsible for providing all the required parts (bonnets, bumpers etc) on time at the test facility however other sources of the parts can be also considered.
- AEB City, AEB Pedestrian and AEB Inter Urban
- Rescue sheet and UN R32 certificate.

In the case of pick up vehicles with single, double and extra cabin and SUV versions, all will be assessed as a single model. Single cab chassis versions are exempted for assessment as they are considered N1 vehicles.

### **2.4 Cars sponsored by car manufacturers**

## 2.4.1 Introduction

Car manufacturers often wish to sponsor a car so that the results may be published at a preferred time, such as right after the car's public launch, or to show the passive safety performance of a car variant that is better equipped than the basic safety variant (according to requirements in 2.3 and 2.4.2). In such cases, car manufacturers can nominate and sponsor cars to be tested and rated by Latin NCAP based only in standard fitted equipment and following fitment rates for the equipment that it applies.

Sponsored vehicles will be required to be assessed in all areas that make up the full assessment. This will only be exempted in the case where there is a technical restriction on the vehicle specification (i.e. lack of side head protection will prevent a pole impact assessment) or a technical decision from Latin NCAP's board.

Sponsored tests will be published only when the model is available in at least one of the markets of Latin NCAP

Sponsored tests must be confirmed no less than 4 months prior to test date. At the moment of nomination for a sponsorship, a non-returnable fee 25.000 Euros will be paid to Latin NCAP. Only once this is done the sponsorship will be considered as accepted by Latin NCAP.

## 2.4.2 Fitment of non-standard safety equipment

Latin NCAP will only allow sponsoring of a car with basic safety equipment such as passive safety, ESC, SBR and SAS or with additional non-standard equipment such as AEBs, LSS and BSD as long as they meet the fitment rates indicated in described below.

In case the manufacturer wants to sponsor a car with optional equipment that does not meet the fitment rate, this can only be in addition to a test of the lowest safety variant or a variant that meets the fitment rate. In such case, Latin NCAP will only use the result of the additional test to provide comments however will not give a formal rating to the car.

Fitment rates will be established per year, with a minimum units produced among the full production volume. Additionally, the system will be required to be offered in all markets as a stand-alone-optional or as a part of a technically defined safety package to be pre-approved by Latin NCAP. Some markets exemptions under special circumstances will be considered.

The following Fitment rates will be considered:

<b>AEB URBAN, AEB INTERURBAN, AEB Pedestrian</b>				
<i>STAND ALONE OPTIONAL in ALL MARKETS</i>				
	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Percentage of Total production	10%	10%	30%	30%

<b>BSD + LDW + LKA+ RED</b>				
<i>STAND ALONE OPTIONAL in ALL MARKETS</i>				

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Percentage of Total production LKA+LDW+LKA+RED	25%	35%	45%	55%

For the AEB fitment rate, only for 2020 and 2021, in cases where AEB does not meet the standalone optional condition, volume of units equipped with AEB must be 50% or higher and the AEB versions must be available in all Latin American markets.

### 3 POST TEST

As it has been done since Latin NCAP begun, a “one to one” meeting may be conducted between the manufacturer and Latin NCAP. All requested information, evidence and extra documentation that the car manufacturer wants to share with Latin NCAP, needs to be sent prior to the “one to one” meeting. As a general rule, CAD simulations will not be accepted as proof of mechanical or dynamic performance. Latin NCAP is not assessing design and intended performances, but real performances of production cars.

### 4 ACQUISITIONS OF THE CARS TO BE TESTED

#### 4.1 Cars models offered to consumers

The cars should be offered for sale in at least one of the Latin NCAP markets. Under normal circumstances, cars to be tested will be purchased by Latin NCAP through an established dealership in any of the Latin NCAP markets. Latin NCAP will decide the transport company responsible for transporting the cars to the crash test laboratory from where the car is sourced.

#### 4.2 New car models

In case the car has not yet been launched in the market at selection time or in case the car is picked from the manufacturer’s facility, Latin NCAP can accept to select those vehicles under the following conditions::

- A.** Only cars from the final production line will be accepted, with the most basic safety equipment. The car will be selected from distribution area, not pre-selected lot or limited amount of units especially separated for Latin NCAP.
- B.** The car should be available for purchase for all consumers by the time of publication.
- C.** The results will be published at the publication date agreed at the beginning of the process before the testing commences. This will be the case even if the car introduction in some of the markets is delayed.
- D.** Latin NCAP reserves the first right of publication (embargo). Once results are published by Latin NCAP, the manufacturer can publish the result with Latin NCAP supplied and authorized material.

**The manufacturer will agree to sponsor a full or partial audit test on the same model in any variant acquired from an established dealer at any time in the future after the launch and at the request of Latin NCAP. Latin NCAP reserves the right to publish and report any**

meaningful differences between the results. The verification test can be decided by Latin NCAP at any time while the model is still in production. Audit may also apply to sponsored cars selected in dealers. Audit cars will be selected in dealers.

## **5 CHOICE OF TEST LABORATORY**

The Latin NCAP Board of Directors or Executive Committee will choose the test laboratory for all cars, including those sponsored by the vehicle manufacturer. Where the car is tested at the request of the manufacturer, the manufacturer is responsible for making sure that test vehicles are delivered to the laboratory on time.

## **6 FITMENT OF NON-STANDARD OR PROTOTYPE COMPONENTS**

The fitment of non-standard or prototype components on the test vehicle is not allowed. Latin NCAP will ask the manufacturer to sign an agreement document regarding the consequences of finding a) non standard parts fitted in sponsored cars, b) sponsor car modifications, etc. Where non-standard or prototype components are found to have been fitted to any of the car tested, the presence of prototype components will be published by Latin NCAP and the results will be invalid.

The manufacturer will be given the opportunity to sponsor the testing of an updated car, fitted with production components. The results of these tests can be published at the same (agreed) time or at a later date.

## **7 FAILURE OF TEST OR SAFETY EQUIPMENT**

### **7.1 Re-test**

Where the laboratory has not performed the test compliant the published protocol, the full test will be repeated at the full expense of the laboratory. Under such circumstances, Latin NCAP will do its utmost to maintain the original timing of publication however some delay may be inevitable.

### **7.2 Re-assessment**

Where there is a failure, or partial failure of safety related equipment during an official test, Latin NCAP may withhold publication of the test results, pending investigation of the failure.

*NOTE: This covers circumstances where the cause of the problem is still being investigated or where publication might not be in the public interest. In that case it would be expected that sales of the car in Latin NCAP markets would be immediately stopped.*

Where a plausible explanation has been provided by the manufacturer and a significant safety update proposed, Latin NCAP will allow a re-assessment of the updated car model. In case a manufacturer has requested Latin NCAP for a re-assessment, Latin NCAP will only publish the results after has been verified that the modification has a permanent character and has been implemented in the production.



### 7.2.1 New cars

In case the car model is new or has been in the market for less than 4 months and a low amount of units were sold before, a re-assessment will be allowed without additional requirements. The result will replace the original result on the website.

### 7.2.2 Cars already on sale

In case the car has been already for more than 4 months in the market or the units sold exceeded 2000, the manufacturer will be allowed a re-assessment only if it is accompanied by a market action towards consumers. The result of the re-assessment will be published alongside the original result.

All costs related to re-assessment will be borne by the manufacturer.

## 8 PUBLICATIONS

Latin NCAP can only issue a star rating of cars that are on sale in the Latin NCAP markets by the time of publication. Results will be published via a press release, the Latin NCAP website ([www.latincap.com](http://www.latincap.com)) and Latin NCAP mobile App. Latin NCAP has the priority in time of the publication of the results over the manufacturer. Publication dates may be agreed between Latin NCAP and manufacturer. Results may be used in a Latin NCAP launch.

When a manufacturer chooses to sponsor a car model already on the market, publication of the results cannot be delayed more than 9 months after the date of the formal sponsorship offer. The publication date will be agreed prior to the test. It will not be possible to move except by Latin NCAP for organizational needs.

The star rating is composed by the four assessment boxes. Manufacturers must publish the results following the Latin NCAP results publication protocols for Manufacturers in Annex 2 and the Latin NCAP Communications guidelines. Results plate will be shown according to Latin NCAP *Visual Identity Guide*<sup>1</sup>:



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<sup>1</sup> Contact Latin NCAP Secretariat

## **9 CONTRACT**

All testing and ratings activities at the request of manufacturers will be done under a contract with Latin NCAP or Global NCAP. Latin NCAP or Global NCAP will invoice the manufacturers for the testing, transport, car, publication and relevant costs. In order to confirm sponsored tests, Latin NCAP will require the transfer in advance of non-returnable 25.000 Euro fee.

## **10 SECRETARIAT DISCRETION**

It is impossible to foresee all eventualities and decisions often have to be made quickly. If the Latin NCAP Steering Group needs to waive any of the above requirements, justification for this must be reported to the Latin NCAP Board of Directors. Where appropriate, revisions of the Latin NCAP protocols or procedures may result.

**Annex 1**  
**Illustration of break-down of model range by variant**

	<b>Bodystyle</b>	<b>Engine (auto and man transmission)</b>	<b>Equipment grade</b>	<b>Variant</b>
<b>MODEL RANGE</b>	3 door hatchback	1.2 petrol	Low	V1
			Mid	V2
			High	V3
		1.4 petrol	Low	V4
			Mid	V5
			High	V6
		2.0 petrol	Mid	V7
			High	V8
		2.2 diesel	Low	V9
			Mid	V10
			High	V11
	5 door hatchback	1.2 petrol	Low	V12
			Mid	V13
			High	V14
		1.4 petrol	Low	V15
			Mid	V16
			High	V17
		2.0 petrol	Mid	V18
			High	V19
		2.2 diesel	Low	V20
			Mid	V21
			High	V22
	5 door estate	1.4 petrol	Low	V23
			Mid	V24
			High	V25
		2.0 petrol	Mid	V26
			High	V27
		2.2 diesel	Low	V28
			Mid	V29
			High	V30

**Annex 2**  
**Protocol of results publication**

**PROTOCOL OF RESULTS PUBLICATION FOR MANUFACTURERS**

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It is required the signature of this document by the marketing director of the manufacturer.

The digital material that Latin NCAP delivers to the manufacturer has videos in HD, Pictures and a "sticker" with the results which cannot be partially or totally modified, edited or changed.

The result of the car is the Adult and Child occupant results together. It is not allowed the publication of the star rating results separately. The results can only be published together in the "sticker" graphical format design.

The design of the "sticker" that Latin NCAP will deliver will be in colour version. In case the use of the "sticker" colour format will differ from the delivered ones, the change should be requested to Latin NCAP. In case of edition without authorization or in case of partial publication, Latin NCAP may decide to take actions towards the manufacturer and it will be requested to change the publication and to publish clarification note.

The use of the logo of Latin NCAP must be authorized by Latin NCAP Communication.

The manufacturer must properly inform Latin NCAP about the place and date of publication in advance in any format.

Manufacturer .....

Model .....

Year tested .....

.....  
Latin NCAP Communications Manager  
Lic. Carolina Pereira

Date .....

The manufacturer must provide a copy to Latin NCAP of each publication of the results including place and date.

Latin NCAP has the priority to publish the results. In case it will be required, Latin NCAP will send the information in advance and the manufacturer will only be allowed to publish it at least 2 hours after the official launch.

The request of information and contents transfer will be done only with the manufacturer's agent and not with advertising agencies or third parties.

The publication of the results earlier than the embargo date and time may bring actions from Latin NCAP towards the manufacturer.

For the video broadcast an authorization must be requested to Latin NCAP with a copy of the publication and date and place of publication. The result may only be used in the specific model and version. For example if the results are valid for a Hatchback then the results should not be used in the sedan version.

Any change to the sticker, logo, fonts, design or star configuration is not allowed.

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Marketing Director  
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