Example 1 – Person occasionally travels within the Schengen Area

A foreigner (tourist, visitor, businessman, …) spent 30 days in the Schengen Area in April. He would now like to spend another 30 days in the Schengen Area in October.

According to the current rules (90 days per 180-day period starting from the date of first entry), such a stay is possible. In fact, over the course of the reference period (which covers the 180 days following entry in early October), the duration of stay does not exceed 90 days.

According to the new rules (90 days over any 180-day period), which will enter into force on 18 October 2013, such a stay is also possible. In fact, over the course of the reference period (which covers 180 days prior to departure at the end of October), the duration of stay does not exceed 90 days.
Example 2 – Person travels frequently within the Schengen Area

A foreigner (tourist, visitor, businessman, …) spent 90 days in the Schengen Area from February to June. He would now like to spend another 90 days in the Schengen Area from August to October.

According to the current rules (90 days per 180-day period starting from the date of first entry), such a stay is possible. In fact, over the course of the reference period (which covers the 180 days following entry in early August), the duration of stay does not exceed 90 days.

According to the new rules (90 days over any 180-day period), which will enter into force on 18 October 2013, the foreigner must leave the Schengen Area on 17 October 2013. If his travel document is checked on 18 October 2013 or during the following days, the border control officer will calculate the stay according to the new rules and will see that the foreigner has exceeded his or her authorised period of stay; the duration of stay will have exceeded 90 days during the reference period (which covers the 180 days prior to the control date).