

MOVEMENT OF UNREGISTERED NEW VEHICLES

Light and Heavy Vehicles Policy

Number H 16.0 & L 11.0

Issue Date 6 August 2008

Revision Date

Intended audience

Transport Inspectors: Provides sufficient guidance to enable a thorough and consistent inspection of motor vehicles, appropriate action for an unregistered new vehicle that requires fitment of a dealer plate for movement over a short distance for specific purposes and to provide relevant advice to members of the general public.

Queensland Police Service: Provides sufficient guidance to enable a thorough and consistent inspection of motor vehicles, appropriate action for an unregistered new vehicle that requires fitment of a dealer plate for movement over a short distance for specific purposes and to provide relevant advice to members of the general public.

New Vehicle Manufacturers: Provides sufficient guidance to enable movement of an unregistered new vehicle that requires fitment of a dealer plate for movement over a short distance for specific purposes.

Registration Policy Advisers: Provides guidance on a vehicle's compliance requirements to enable movement of an unregistered new vehicle that requires fitment of a dealer plate for movement over a short distance for specific purposes and to provide relevant advice to members of the general public.

Applies to

An unregistered light or heavy new vehicle that is not fitted with an identification/compliance plate, but otherwise is capable of being registered and requires fitment of a dealer plate for movement over a short distance for specific purposes.

Objective

To ensure that an unregistered new vehicle can demonstrate compliance with the Australian Design Rules (ADRs) and Queensland legislation when being moved over a short distance for specific purposes by attaching a dealer plate.

Background

It has come to the attention of Queensland Transport (QT) that some vehicle manufacturers may be moving their unregistered new vehicles that do not have identification/compliance plates fitted over short distances for specific purposes, by attaching dealer plates to such vehicles. Specific purposes may include:

- Driving to and from port and manufacturing facility;
 - Driving to and from holding areas and manufacturing facility;
 - Driving to and from local body building facilities;
 - Driving to and from local equipment fitment facilities; and
 - Driving for Quality Assurance test runs
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It is a precondition of use of a dealer plate that the vehicle to which it is attached is capable of being registered. This includes compliance to applicable Australian Design Rules (ADRs).

ADR 61/02 "Vehicle Marking" Clause 6 requires every vehicle to be fitted with a compliance plate. Detailed requirements for the identification/compliance plates are contained in the Administrator's Circular 0-3-2 "Compliance Plates"

For vehicles of ADR category ME (Heavy Omnibus), NC (Heavy Goods Vehicle) and T-Group (Trailers), a "Vehicle Plate" as per Clause 8 of ADR 61/02 is also required to be fitted.

Legislation

The *Transport Operations (Road Use Management – Vehicle Standards and Safety) Regulation 1999* requires that vehicles comply with Australian Design Rules (ADRs).

The *Transport Operations (Road Use Management – Vehicle Registration) Regulation 1999*, Section 52, allows an unregistered new vehicle to be used on road provided:

- (a) a current dealer plate is attached to the vehicle; and
- (b) the vehicle is capable of being registered under this regulation.

Section 8 of the Vehicle Registration Regulation states that, to be eligible for registration under this regulation, a vehicle must conform to the requirements applying to the vehicle under each vehicle law.

Further, Section 9 of the Vehicle Registration Regulation states that, as proof of compliance with vehicle law, the chief executive may accept a written statement to that effect from the vehicle's manufacturer.

Supporting documents

The Administrator's Circular 0-3-2 "Compliance Plates"

The Administrator's Circular 0-13-1 "Conformity of Production"

Australian Design Rule ADR 61/02 "Vehicle Marking"

Issue specifics

As far as possible, manufacturers should ensure fitment of an identification/compliance plate and where applicable, a vehicle plate to an unregistered new vehicle before attaching a dealer plate, if required, for movement over a short distance for specific purposes.

In cases where it is impossible or impractical to fit an identification/compliance plate to an unregistered new vehicle before it has to be moved, a Letter of Compliance (as per Attachment 1), signed by the vehicle manufacturer (or an authorised delegate), must be carried in the vehicle if the vehicle is required to be moved over a short distance for specific purposes. A dealer plate is also required to be attached.

For the purpose of the requirements related to movement over a short distance for specific purposes and attaching of the dealer plate, the signed Letter of Compliance (as per Attachment 1) is deemed as an acceptable alternative to fitment of an identification/compliance plate, and a vehicle plate, where applicable. No separate exemption permit is required from Queensland Transport exempting the vehicle from the identification/compliance plate requirement for this specific purpose only.

Queensland Transport does not permit movement of an unregistered new vehicle over a short distance for specific purposes if:

- the vehicle is not manufactured to comply with all the applicable Australian Design Rules (ADRs), except the fitment of a identification/compliance plate; or
- the vehicle does not carry a Letter of Compliance (as per Attachment 1) that is signed by the vehicle manufacturer; or
- the vehicle does not have attached to it a current dealer plate.

Transport Inspector's action

During the course of an inspection or interception where Transport Inspectors encounter an unregistered new vehicle being moved over a short distance for specific purposes while a dealer plate is attached, they are to:

- Ensure that vehicle complies with the requirements governing use of dealer plate, including those stated above.
- Issue a Defect Notice if the vehicle does not comply with the above stated requirements and provide instructions to stop the vehicle being used on road without an identification/compliance plate.

QPS action

During the course of an inspection or interception where QPS officers encounter a new unregistered vehicle being used on road over a short distance for specific purposes while a dealer plate is attached, they are to:

- Ensure that vehicle complies with the requirements governing use of dealer plate, including those stated above.
- Issue a Defect Notice if the vehicle does not comply with the above stated requirements and provide instructions to stop the vehicle being used on road without an identification/compliance plate.

Enquiries

Vehicle Engineering and Access Team on (07) 3253 4851.

Authorisation

Issued by Business Manager (Vehicle Engineering & Access)

ATTACHMENT 1*

Manufacturer's Letterhead

Letter of Compliance

The following vehicle is built to comply with all the applicable Australian Design Rules (ADRs) and the requirements of *Transport Operations (Road Use Management - Vehicle Standards and Safety) Regulation 1999*.

Approval Number		Category	
Manufacturer's Name			
Make		Model	
GVM (Kg)		Seats	
Date of Manufacture (mm/yy)			
Vehicle Identification Number			
THIS VEHICLE WAS MANUFACTURED TO COMPLY WITH THE MOTOR VEHICLE STANDARDS ACT 1989			

_____/_____/_____
Signature / Name / Position of Authorised Delegate of Vehicle Manufacturer
Date:_____

* Notes

- For more details see Attachment 1 of Administrator's Circular 0-3-2
- Where an identification/compliance plate approval is under process but not yet formally issued, the approval number above may refer to:
 - a) a provisional approval number; or
 - b) a manufacturer's reference on CA form; or
 - c) a manufacturer's internal project number.
- A signed copy of this letter should be carried in the vehicle when moving an unregistered new vehicle that is not fitted with an identification/compliance plate but has a dealer plate attached to it.