

Vehicle Inspectors Bulletin No. 19

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Transport Services Division

Issued by
Road Transport Compliance

For: ♦ Transport Inspectors ♦ Authorised Inspectors ♦ NT Police

Inspection Types

Purpose

The purpose of this Bulletin is to outline the vehicle inspection regime in the Northern Territory.

Authorisation

Motor Vehicles Act - Sections 15, 127, 128 and 128A

Vehicle Inspections Types

Compliance Check

A compliance check is an inspection of a vehicle's identifiers by an approved person. Its aim is to ensure that the vehicle identifiers are not missing or altered in any way and to ensure that the vehicle corresponds with the registration application details and/or information contained on a registration authority's data base.

Transport Inspectors, Police Officers and approved persons at Motor Vehicle Registry offices may carry out compliance checks. Approved Authorised Inspectors may carry out compliance checks on factory new vehicles only. Special arrangements are made for compliance checks undertaken in remote locations.

Compliance checks are required on all vehicles:

- that are applying for first registration in the Northern Territory; or
- when confirmation of vehicle identification or vehicle description is required.

There is no fee for a compliance inspection.

Compliance inspections are outlined in Appendix A – "NT Vehicle Inspection Regime – Compliance Checks and Roadworthy Inspections".

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Phone: (08) 8973 8791
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Roadworthy Inspections

A roadworthy inspection is an inspection of a motor vehicle undertaken by a Transport Inspector, Police Officer or an Approved Authorised Inspector for ensuring compliance with roadworthy and safety standards for the purpose of registration.

Periodic roadworthy inspections are determined by the vehicle type and vehicle category as outlined in Appendix A – “NT Vehicle Inspection Regime – Compliance Checks and Roadworthy Inspections”.

A prescribed fee is payable for a roadworthy inspection.

A roadworthy inspection is valid for six weeks from the date of inspection.

Vehicle Identity Validation (VIV) Inspections

A vehicle identity validation inspection is an inspection of a vehicle that has been recorded on a Written-Off Vehicle Register (WOVR). Its purpose is to establish if the vehicle presented is actually the original vehicle that was written-off and has now been repaired.

Transport Inspectors and Police may perform VIV inspections.

VIV inspections are required on all vehicles that have been recorded as a WOVR and are seeking re-registration or establishing registration in the NT.

Vehicles recorded as statutory write-offs on the NT's WOVR or on NEVDIS are suitable for wrecking and spare parts only and **will not** be registered.

A complete VIV inspection is made up of the following components:

- Inspection of vehicle identifiers (Compliance check);
- Assessment of damage location as detailed on a WOVR for evidence of repairs; and
- Obtaining Police clearance.

There is no prescribed fee for a VIV inspection.

Stolen Motor Vehicle (SMV) Inspections

An SMV inspection may be required when a vehicle fails a compliance check or Police clearance is required as part of a VIV inspection.

Transport Inspectors notify Police by requesting the inspection.

No registration is offered until the vehicle has been cleared by Police.

There is no prescribed fee for an SMV inspection.

Defect Inspections

A defect inspection is required to clear a defective vehicle.

Defect notices are issued by Transport Inspectors or the Police to the owner or person having custody of a registered vehicle where the vehicle does not comply with roadworthy or safety standards.

Once a defect notice is issued, the vehicle is defective and is issued a defect label.

Transport Inspectors or Police may clear a defective vehicle. In remote and regional areas, Authorised Inspectors may provide a passed inspection report as evidence that the vehicle is roadworthy so that the defect can be cleared. The inspection report provided by an Authorised Inspector must note the following: "**Defect clearing inspection only**".

The prescribed fee is the same as a roadworthy inspection.

A defect inspection is valid for six weeks from the date of inspection and can be conducted in conjunction with a roadworthy inspection for the renewal of registration during the validity period. This will only attract a single inspection fee.

A defect inspection can also be conducted in conjunction with any other inspection and will only attract a single inspection fee.

Call-in Inspections

A call-in inspection is required to clear a vehicle that has been issued a call-in notice.

A call-in notice is issued to the owner of the vehicle when possible faults are suspected and verification of the vehicle condition is required.

Call-in notices are generally issued by Transport Inspectors and generally cleared by Transport Inspectors following a full inspection of the vehicle.

There is no prescribed fee for a call-in inspection.

If faults are detected during the call-in inspection, the vehicle may be defected. In this case, a defect inspection fee will apply when the vehicle is presented for a defect clearing inspection.

Rating Inspection

An initial rating inspection is required on heavy vehicles to determine vehicle component ratings are suitable for the task.

Specific component ratings are required when operating in various configurations and schemes.

Rating inspections are generally conducted by Transport Inspectors.

The prescribed fee is the same fee for a roadworthy inspection.

A rating inspection can be conducted in conjunction with any other inspection and will only attract a single inspection fee.

Livestock Rating Inspection

An initial livestock rating inspection is required on heavy vehicles to determine if vehicle component ratings are suitable for use in the livestock loading scheme.

Rating inspections are generally conducted by Transport Inspectors.

The prescribed fee is the same fee for a roadworthy inspection.

A livestock rating inspection can be conducted in conjunction with any other inspection and will only attract a single inspection fee.

Commercial Passenger Vehicle (CPV) Inspection

A CPV inspection is required on all vehicles that are operated for hire or reward and involves a roadworthy and cosmetic inspection every six months unless exempted under an approved vehicle maintenance scheme.

CPV inspections are conducted by Transport Inspectors, Police or approved Authorised Inspectors. Special arrangements are made for CPV inspections undertaken in remote locations.

The prescribed fee is the same fee for a roadworthy inspection and includes a cosmetic inspection.

CPV inspections are valid for six weeks from the date of inspection.

Schedule of Vehicle Inspections – Appendix A

NT Vehicle Inspection Regime – Compliance Checks and Roadworthy Inspections

Item	Vehicle Category	First NT Registration		NT Registration Renewal	
		Compliance Check	Roadworthy Inspection	Compliance Check	Roadworthy Inspection
a)	Motor Vehicle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to and including 4.5 tonne GVM & Up to and including 3 years old 	✓	✗	A	✗
b)	Motor Vehicle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to and including 4.5 tonne GVM & Greater than 3 years old & Less than 10 years old 	✓	✓	A	✓B
c)	Motor Vehicle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to and including 4.5 tonne GVM & Equal to or greater than 10 years old 	✓	✓	A	✓C
d)	Motor Vehicle or Trailer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater than 4.5 tonne GVM / ATM 	✓	✓	A	✓C
e)	Trailer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to and including 500kg tare or Up to and including 750kg ATM & Up to and including 3 years old 	✓	✗	A	✗
f)	Trailer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to and including 500kg tare or Up to and including 750kg ATM & Greater than 3 years old 	✓	✓	A	✗
g)	Trailer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater than 500kg tare or Greater than 750kg ATM & Up to and including 4.5 tonne ATM & Up to and including 3 years old 	✓	✗	A	✗
h)	Trailer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater than 500kg tare or Greater than 750kg ATM & Up to and including 4.5 tonne ATM & Greater than 3 years old & Less than 10 years old 	✓	✓	A	✓B
i)	Trailer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater than 500kg tare or Greater than 750kg ATM & Up to and including 4.5 tonne ATM & Equal to or greater than 10 years old 	✓	✓	A	✓C

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Item	Vehicle Category	First NT Registration		NT Registration Renewal	
		Compliance Check	Roadworthy Inspection	Compliance Check	Roadworthy Inspection
j)	Commercial Passenger Vehicle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buses registered as Motor Omnibus (MO) • Vehicles registered as Tourist Vehicles (TV) 	✓	✓	A	✓D
k)	Commercial Passenger Vehicle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxis • Minibuses • Private Hire Cars • Limousines • Courtesy Vehicles • Special Function Vehicles • Special Passenger Vehicles 	✓	✓	A	✓E

Legend

- A** Compliance check only if vehicle details do not match
- B** Biennial roadworthy inspection (every two years) until vehicle is 10 years old
- C** Annual roadworthy inspection required
- D** Roadworthy and cosmetic inspection every 6 months, unless exempted under an approved vehicle maintenance scheme
- E** Roadworthy and cosmetic inspection every 6 months

Notes for Guidance

1. No inspection required on transfer of ownership
2. The age of the vehicle is determined by vehicle's compliance plate or specifications provided by the vehicle manufacturer and, unless otherwise specified, is taken from the first day of the month