



ATTENTION: Official Inspection Stations, Quality Assurance Officers, and Pennsylvania State Police		
BI19-08	Vehicle Inspection Division Bulletin	December 2019

TOPICS IN THIS BULLETIN:**REMINDER:****RUST WITHIN THE REGULATIONS
BENEATH THE VEHICLE INSPECTION****CLARIFICATION: STATION ON LINE ACCESS****Rust Within the Regulations**

We have received questions from a few vehicle owners regarding when the appearance of rust applies in the safety inspection regulations. As a reminder, the Safety Inspection Regulations (which are republished by PennDOT in Pub 45) identifies rust in only four subchapters. These sections regard a floor pan that is rusted through so as to cause hazard to occupants or permit exhaust gases to enter the passenger compartment. The four sections in the regulations are noted below.

175.80(a) – Passenger Cars & Light Trucks (Subchapter E)

(7) Check the flooring and floor beds and **REJECT IF** one or more of the following apply:

(ii) the floor pan is rusted through so as to cause hazard to occupants or to permit exhaust gases to enter passenger compartment.

175.110(a) – Medium & Heavy Trucks, Buses & School Buses (Subchapter F)

(7) Check the flooring and floor beds and **REJECT IF** any of the following apply:

(ii) The floor pan is rusted through so as to cause hazard to occupants or to permit exhaust gases to enter passenger compartment.

175.130(b) – Recreational, Semi-and Utility Trailers (Subchapter G)

(ii) On passenger-carrying trailers **REJECT IF** any of the following apply:

(A) The flooring and floor beds are not substantially constructed to support occupants and cargo. The floor pan is rusted through to cause hazard to occupants or to permit exhaust gases to enter passenger compartment.

175.160(a) – Motorcycles (Subchapter H)

(5) Check the flooring and floor beds if applicable and **REJECT IF** any of the following apply:

(ii) The floor pan is rusted through so as to cause a hazard to occupants or to permit exhaust gases to enter passenger compartment.

A few vehicle owners have asked if a vehicle will fail inspection merely because there is some rust that is observable on the exterior of the vehicle. Unlike floor pan rust noted above, there is no specific “reject if” criteria for rust observed on the exterior of the vehicle in the safety inspection regulations.

We have also heard the term “rust” used when discussing protruding metal. As a reminder, the use of the term “rust” does not appear in regulation related to protruding metal, safety technicians need to determine at time of inspection if metal “protrudes from the surface of the vehicle” **and** if that protruding metal creates a hazard. See regulation:

175.80(a) – Passenger Cars & Light Trucks (Subchapter E)

(10) Check for protruding metal and reject if torn metal, glass, or other loose or dislocated parts protrude from a surface of the vehicle so as to create a hazard.

Beneath the Vehicle Inspection

The procedure for inspecting the vehicle frame is found in the Beneath the Vehicle Inspection instructions in 175.80(e)(5) and note that a vehicle is to be rejected if one or more of the following apply:

- the frame is not in solid condition,
- repairs are made with tape, tar paper or cloth or made in another temporary manner,
- the frame components are missing, cracked, rotted or broken or are in a deteriorated or dangerous condition,
- body mounts do not hold as required,
- a body mount is broken, cracked, deteriorated or missing, or
- the difference in the body floor and the top of the frame rail exceeds 4 inches.

Unibody Vehicles

In unibody vehicles, body panels are an integral part of the structural integrity and rigidity of the vehicle by design. If the determination is made by an inspector that a body panel is deteriorated to the point where it is no longer providing the structure it was intended to, the vehicle is to be rejected for failure under the frame section.

Body on Frame Vehicles

Body panels on vehicles that are constructed as a body on frame are not a stressed structural member and their deterioration would not change the structural integrity of the vehicle or its handling on the road.

Station Online Access:

To have access to view the station records or purchase stickers online, an individual must be on the station's official list as an authorized purchaser or another official type. Any users that are not already an **official** at the station will need to have another registered user add them to the official list or fill out a new MV-500 form from a Quality Assurance Officer.

All existing stations should use the **My Station** tile to view your station information and purchase stickers. Existing stations already have an Official Inspection Station (OIS) number and are listed within the online system, even if it is the station's first time entering the online access portal.

The **Create Station** tile should only be used to create a new inspection station separate from the current business. After the new station application is completed and approved, a new Official Inspection Station (OIS) number will be created for the new station.

Login Problems? If you are attempting to access the system but the login process is presenting difficulty, please contact the IT Service Desk at 717.783.8330. They will work with you to ensure your login is successful and are directed to the **Station Application Home Page**.

Once you are within the new station application, any additional assistance can be provided by contacting the Inspections Call Center, 717.787.2895. Instructions for placing sticker orders can be found on the Inspection Information website at the "Station Sticker Order (PDF)" link: <https://www.dmv.pa.gov/VEHICLE-SERVICES/Inspection-Information/Pages/default.aspx>

Keep your Password Secure. DO NOT SHARE log-in information. Each person accessing the system should have their own personal login ID and password. This ensures accountability when ordering stickers. When individuals share log in information, the station is liable for errors. When an individual leaves the stations' employ, the station is responsible for removing that person's access to that station's record.

With station online access, stations may now update their station officials' information, inspector information, station contact information, hours of operation, track sticker orders, and view sticker order history.

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