

ATTENTION: ALL OFFICIAL INSPECTION STATIONS
QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICERS AND PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE

BI05-1

SAFETY INSPECTION BULLETIN

January 2005

TOPICS IN THIS BULLETIN:

**COORDINATION OF REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION NO LONGER REQUIRED
CHANGES IN STREET ROD INSPECTION CRITERIA**

Effective January 30, 2005, safety and emissions stickers are no longer required to coordinate with the vehicle's registration expiration date. Although this change will not affect most vehicles presented to you for inspection, the following questions and answers are being provided so that you can properly assign the expirations to any safety and/or emissions stickers you issue. All questions and answers provided below assume that the vehicle qualifies to receive a safety/emissions sticker.

Q1: Why did the law regarding the coordination of inspection stickers and registrations change?

A1: Act 229 of 2004 repealed portions of the Vehicle Code to no longer require safety and emissions inspection stickers to coordinate with the expiration of the vehicle's registration. This change was made to address on-going concerns over customers having to pay for multiple inspections in the same year. **Inspection expirations for motorcycles, vehicles with a temporary plate and semi-annual inspections are not affected by this change.**

Q2: As a result of the law change, how should I calculate inspection expirations?

A2: Inspection personnel should use the guidelines below to determine the proper inspection expirations for annually inspected vehicles (safety or emissions):

- **If there is no valid inspection sticker on the vehicle at the time of inspection,** the inspecting mechanic should assign an inspection sticker valid for one year from the month of inspection. For example: If an inspection is performed on a vehicle in March 2005, and there is no valid inspection sticker on the vehicle, the new inspection expiration will be March 2006.
- **If the inspection sticker on the vehicle expires more than 90 days from the date of inspection,** the inspecting mechanic should assign an inspection sticker valid for one year from the month of inspection. For example: If an inspection is performed on a vehicle in March 2005, and the inspection sticker currently on the vehicle expires in July 2005, the new inspection expiration will be March 2006.
- **If the inspection sticker on the vehicle expires less than 90 days from the date of inspection,** the inspecting mechanic should assign an inspection sticker that is valid for one year from the expiration month of the current sticker. For example: If an inspection is performed on a vehicle in March 2005, and the inspection sticker currently on the vehicle expires in April 2005, the new inspection expiration will be April 2006.

Q3: How will the change in the law affect the inspection expiration charts issued by the Department?
A3: The change in the law only affects the use of Chart 1 (Annually inspected vehicles). Chart 1 will be used for vehicles that currently display inspection sticker(s) and registration expirations that match. Chart 1 will also be used if your customer requests that you coordinate their inspection expirations with their registration expiration.

Q4: How does the change in the law affect the requirement that vehicles must display a renewed emissions sticker prior to the safety sticker being renewed?
A4: If the emissions inspection sticker on the vehicle expires less than 90 days from the date of inspection, the vehicle must display a renewed emissions sticker prior to the issuance of the new safety sticker.

If the emissions inspection sticker on the vehicle expires more than 90 days from the date of inspection, the vehicle is not required to display a renewed emissions sticker prior to the issuance of the new safety sticker.

Q5: If a customer wants the safety and emissions stickers on their vehicle to match, which sticker expiration should be adjusted?
A5: This decision should be left to your customer. However, the sticker assigned as a result of the adjustment cannot be valid for less than 6 months or more than 12 months.

Q6: If the current inspection sticker(s) and registration expire at the same time, is there any reason to adjust them?
A6: No, there is no need to adjust the expirations unless the customer requests it.

CHANGES IN STREET ROD INSPECTION CRITERIA

Act 228 of 2004, which becomes effective on January 30, 2005, has changed certain equipment requirements for vehicles registered as street rods. The new language states that: "Vehicles registered as street rods will not be required to be equipped with bumpers, fenders or engine coverage as originally manufactured. If the hood, top and sides, or both, are removed from the vehicle the engine fan must be enclosed with a shroud designed to protect the fan from accidental contact from the outside." As a result of this change, street rods will no longer be rejected for inspection for not having bumpers, fenders or an engine enclosure provided a fan shroud is present as required. These changes only apply to registered street rods. The existing rejection criteria found in Subchapter K (pertaining to bumpers, fenders and engine covers) still applies to specially constructed and reconstructed vehicles.

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