

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

BI06-1

SAFETY INSPECTION BULLETIN

APRIL 2006

TOPICS IN THIS BULLETIN:

UPDATE REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ENHANCED INSPECTION STATIONS TO INSPECT RECONSTRUCTED VEHICLES

As a follow-up to the September 2005 letter concerning the review of the reconstructed vehicle process, PennDOT has continued to work with the "Specialized Vehicle Compliance Advisory Panel" to establish procedures and requirements for the inspection and titling of reconstructed, specially constructed, modified, flood, recovered theft, collectible vehicles and street rods. This panel (which is prescribed by law) consists of Legislative, Department and Industry representatives.

As you may be aware, any appointed safety inspection station may currently inspect reconstructed, specially constructed, modified, flood, recovered theft, collectible vehicles and street rods, complete the required application form and submit it to PennDOT for processing. Upon receipt of a title, the applicant then has to obtain a registration and license plate and have the vehicle reinspected prior to being able to operate the vehicle.

The new process will consist of a network of specially equipped Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Stations under contract with PennDOT with specially trained inspection personnel. Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Stations may also choose to become a participating company in our On-Line Registration Program and be authorized to process title and registration work. This would permit you to issue registration plates, cards and stickers for customers, including those requesting credentials for reconstructed and flood vehicles. For those Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Stations that decide not to participate in the On-Line Registration Program, the services of the existing network of dealers, agents and messengers, who are able to issue registration credentials for a reconstructed vehicle that qualifies, will be available.

The following questions and answers will provide you with a more comprehensive overview of the program and assist you in determining whether or not you choose to participate in this program.

General

- Q. When does PennDOT expect to start the Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection program for reconstructed, specially constructed, modified, collectibles, flood, recovered theft vehicles and street rods?
- A. PennDOT's implementation date is scheduled for January 1, 2007.

- Q. What types of vehicles will require an Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection?
A. All vehicles currently requiring the submission of an MV-426 application (for reconstructed, specially constructed, flood, modified, recovered theft, collectible vehicles and street rods) will require the Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection.
- Q. Of the vehicles listed above, what types of vehicle applications can be processed by a participating company in the On-Line Registration Program and be issued a registration and license plate immediately?
A. Vehicles that require a reconstructed vehicle title brand, flood vehicle brand or a reconstructed flood vehicle title brand can be issued a registration and license plate immediately.
- Q. How will applications be processed for the remaining vehicle types such as; specially constructed, modified, collectible, recovered theft vehicles and street rods?
A. After an inspection at an Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station is completed, the application and other required documents are verified and assembled by the inspection mechanic. The application will be forwarded to PennDOT for review and expedited processing as is currently done.
- Q. If I am not an Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station, will I be authorized to inspect reconstructed, specially constructed, flood, modified, recovered theft, collectible vehicles and street rods and complete the required application for the purpose of having a vehicle titled and registered in Pennsylvania?
A. No. Only those stations appointed as an Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station will be authorized to perform these functions after January 1, 2007.
- Q. Is participation in this program voluntary?
A. Yes, participation in the Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station program is voluntary.
- Q. How many vehicles are expected to require an Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection?
A. PennDOT records indicate that approximately 40,000 enhanced inspections will need to be performed each year.
- Q. Is there a deadline for applying to become an Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station?
A. No. However, PennDOT will work to assure that there is an adequate network of Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Stations to offer the public this service beginning January 1, 2007.
- Q. If I choose not to participate now, will I be able to apply as an Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station at a later time?
A. Yes. After the initial start up, adding the Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station type to an existing safety inspection station can be done anytime by contacting your Quality Assurance Officer.
- Q. How do I begin the process of becoming an Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station?
A. You can begin the process of becoming an Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station by requesting a requirements package and contract via email at PAInspections@state.pa.us or by faxing your request to the attention of the Contract Section at (717) 705-6990. When requesting information, please include your station number, station name and address. Please allow 45 days for the mailing of the requirements package and contract.

Administrative

- Q. Will there be a fee to become an Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station or inspector?
- A. There will be no fee to apply for and be appointed as an Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station. However, an investment in tools and inspector training will be required. Additionally, a certificate of insurance for general commercial liability in the amount of \$50,000 and annual criminal record checks for employees will be required.
- Q. Must I have a separate insurance policy in the amount of \$50,000 to operate an Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station?
- A. No. Current insurance policies in place will meet this requirement if the \$50,000 minimum amount is maintained
- Q. How will the application be processed after a customer brings a specially constructed vehicle, modified vehicle, recovered theft vehicle, collectible vehicle or street rod in to have the Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection performed?
- A. After the enhanced vehicle safety inspector examines the vehicle and determines it should be approved for titling, the inspection station or vehicle owner will submit the application and supporting documentation to PennDOT for review and processing.
- Q. How do I find out who in my area is a participating company in the On-Line Registration Program?
- A. Many new car dealers, messenger services and AAA clubs participate in the On-Line Registration Program. You will need to contact these businesses in your local area to find out if they are able to offer these services.
- Q. How can an Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station become a participating company in the On-Line Registration Program for the purpose of processing title and registration transactions?
- A. In order to become a participating company in the On-Line Registration Program, you must first be authorized and contracted as an Issuing Agent. Once approved, you may then contact one of the Business Partners (TRIVIN, CVR or PAMS) for information and costs for doing this on-line business. Contact names and phone numbers for these Business Partners may be obtained by emailing us at PAInspections@state.pa.us or by faxing your request to the attention of the Contract Section at (717) 705-6990. Issuing Agent contract requirements packets may also be obtained at the email address and the fax number above. Please allow 45 days for the mailing of these materials.
- Q. Is there a cost to become a participating company in the On-Line Registration Program?
- A. There are no costs required by PennDOT. There are costs to the Business Partner that you contract with to provide you the interface to provide these transactions. These costs vary with each Business Partner.

Facility

- Q. Will Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Stations need to purchase additional equipment?
- A. Yes. Stations participating in the Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station program will need the following: a window tint meter, candle power meter, instant or digital camera/printer and reference manuals illustrating the locations of public Vehicle Identification Numbers. These items are in addition to the tools and equipment required by the Vehicle Equipment and Inspection Regulations (Chapter 175) and may be expanded upon as the program evolves. There may also be equipment and connectivity costs required if you participate in the On-Line Registration Program. You will need to contact the Business Partners for this information.
- Q. How will PennDOT designate and appoint Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Stations?
- A. After a contract between the inspection station and PennDOT is executed, an MV-427 station application will be completed to add the Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station type to the station's existing record. This application process will be handled (in much the same fashion as it is today) through a visit from your Quality Assurance Officer.

Training

- Q. Must a mechanic be a certified inspection mechanic in order to perform Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspections?
- A. Yes. Mechanics wishing to perform the Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspections are required to have the certification type for the vehicles he/she intends to inspect.
- Q. Will additional training be required for Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspectors?
- A. Yes, however, specific additional training requirements for the Enhanced Vehicle Safety Inspection Station program have not yet been finalized. Once the requirements are fully known, PennDOT will communicate them via a station bulletin.

As additional information becomes available, PennDOT will contact you again through these inspection station bulletins. As a reminder, all inspection station bulletins can be viewed on-line by visiting our web site at www.dmv.state.pa.us and clicking on "Motor Vehicle Services."

Kurt J. Myers, Director
Bureau of Motor Vehicles