

**ATTENTION: Official Inspection Stations, Quality Assurance Officers, and
Pennsylvania State Police**

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Vehicle Inspection Division Safety Inspection Bulletin

September 2014

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ORDERING INSPECTION STICKERS

Beginning October 1, 2014, the Department will be issuing the new 2015-16 safety and emissions inspection stickers. Between now and October 1, you should be careful not to order more stickers than necessary to perform annual inspections through December 31, 2014 and semi-annual inspections through June 30, 2015.

When placing an order for new safety or emission inspection stickers it is important that you indicate which inspection years they are for. To order the current 2014-15 safety or emission inspection stickers simply complete an MV-436A Inspection Sticker and Insert Order Form as usual. **Please allow 14 business days for your sticker orders.**

You may place your orders now for 2015-16 safety or emission inspection stickers but they will not be processed until October 1, 2014. **If you wish to order 2015-2016 safety or emission inspection stickers please write 2015-2016 in large numbers across the top of your MV-436A Inspection Sticker and Insert Order Form.** Unless you indicate the numbers at the top your order will be processed for 2014-15. No MV-436A forms marked 2015-16 will be processed before October 1, 2014.

The 2015-16 stickers may be used simultaneously with the 2014-15 stickers. The 2014-15 stickers may be used for inspections on vehicles with expiry dates up to December 2014. The 2015-16 stickers are needed by November 1st for vehicles with a January 2015 expiry. Once you begin to use the new 2015-16 stickers, a separate MV431 or MV480 must be started. Please be aware that if your payment is made with a check returned for insufficient funds, your inspection privileges are subject to suspension in accordance with the schedule of penalties found in Section 175.51 of the Vehicle Equipment and Inspection Regulations.

Vehicle Equipment and Safety Regulations

For clarification purposes; on Road Testing vehicles with adaptable driver controls:

175.28(a) requires that the entire inspection be performed by the certified inspection mechanic. If the mechanic is not going to be comfortable performing the road test, the mechanic should not perform the inspection. Either another mechanic from the station (or from the entity that installed the adaptive controls) should inspect the vehicle or the vehicle would need to be taken to another inspection station.

175.80 (a)(4) requires the vehicle to be rejected if:

(i) The doors, except a tailgate on a pick-up truck, are not on the vehicle if originally fitted by the manufacturer.

(ii) The doors, including the tailgate, do not open and close securely, unless the vehicle has been manufactured or modified to the extent that there is no roof or side.

For clarification purposes; because Jeep Wranglers possess doors as part of their original equipment, Jeep Wranglers must be equipped with their doors and the doors must close securely in order to pass the safety inspection.

175.80(e)(xxii) requires the vehicle to be rejected if a tire is smaller than the manufacturer's recommended minimum size or below the manufacturer's recommended load range.

For clarification purposes:

Tire size and load range are determined by the individual vehicle manufacturer. Gross vehicle weight along with the ability of the tire side wall construction to withstand stress on turns and the extreme force exerted on front tires during braking at freeway speeds are some of the factors that dictate load range. It is the load range rating branded on a tire's sidewall that identifies how much load the tire is designed to carry at its industry specified pressure. Operating a vehicle with improper tire size and load range could affect the stability control of a vehicle, having an adverse effect on the vehicle and others on the road. Tires are subjected to adverse conditions and Safety Inspection Inspectors determine if a vehicle's tires conform to manufacturer's specification and minimum tire conditions.

Regulations are not grandfathered, due to the fact that there would be two types of vehicles on Pennsylvania roadways; those with tires that pass the safety inspection in accordance with regulation; and tires considered passable due to a grandfathering clause, but that do not meet the regulatory standard. This would be a cause for concern for public safety. The Pennsylvania Safety Inspection Program is committed to ensure the safety of all citizens travelling upon the roadways.

If you have any questions, please contact the Vehicle Inspection Division at (717) 787-2895.

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