



CIRCULAR NO. 43/01-2-1

PROCEDURES FOR PRESENTATION, REPORTING AND DISTRIBUTING INFORMATION ON VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER SYSTEMS

INTRODUCTION

1. This Circular advises manufacturers of motor vehicles and trailers which are subject to certificate on by the Board of the procedures to be followed in the reporting of Vehicle Identification Numbers (VINs) to the Administrator in accordance with clause 43.3.0.3 of ADR 43/01.
2. The Circular also provides additional information in regard to location and attachment of VINs to vehicles.
3. This Circular does not apply to those manufacturers undertaking a second stage of manufacture on a partially completed or completed vehicle. The first manufacturer will have allocated a VIN even for a partially completed vehicle, such as a bus chassis, and this will remain the VIN through any subsequent stage of manufacture or modification.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESENTATION OF VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (VIN)

4. General Requirements

The VIN is a structured combination of 17 characters assigned to a vehicle by the manufacturer for identification purposes. The structure of the VIN shall comply with the requirements of Australian Design Rule 43/01 - Vehicle Configuration and Marking.

5. World Manufacturer Identifier (WMI)

For the purpose of allocating the WMI the "manufacturer" shall be as defined in ISO 3779, Road Vehicles - Vehicle identification number (VIN) - Content and Structure, clause 4.5 ie a person, firm, or corporation under whose responsibility a vehicle has been assembled to form a unit which is ready for operation.

The term "manufacturer" used elsewhere in this Circular shall be as defined in Circular 0-3-2, Compliance Plates Para 14 ie The name of the person or company who accepts responsibility for the vehicle's compliance with the Australian Design Rules and to whom the Compliance Plate Approval certificate is issued.

The WMI in any VIN shall be the WMI assigned to the manufacturer of the vehicle source plant.

For manufacturers where the vehicle source plant is in Australia the WMI shall be assigned by the Standards Association of Australia (SAA), or, for low volume manufacturers (less than 500 vehicles per annum), by the registering - authority concerned, acting as an agent for SAA.

6. Duplication of a VIN

Duplication of a VIN is not permitted for a period of 30 years.

7. Manufacturer' s Repair Procedure for Incorrectly Stamped VIN

It shall be permissible to use the following repair procedure for an incorrectly stamped VIN which is detected by the manufacturer. This procedure shall only apply to a VIN which is stamped directly onto a metal panel or component which is permanent structure of the vehicle

- (a) A maximum of three (3) errors can be individually X'd out and the correct letter or digit stamped just above or below the X'd error,
- (b) If more than three (3) errors are in a VIN;
 - (i) the entire VIN shall be X'd out and the correct VIN shall be restamped above or below the X'd out incorrect VIN:
 - OR
 - (ii) the entire VIN shall be ground off and the correct VIN shall be restamped.

(NOTE: Refer Para 12 for reporting of repaired VINs)

8. Accessibility

- (a) The VIN shall appear clearly and indelibly either upon a permanent structure of the vehicle (other than glazing), or upon a separate plate which is to be permanently affixed to such a part. A permanent structure is one that does not readily lend itself to substitution or is not likely to be removed or replaced.
- (b) The VIN shall appear in isolation from any other information on the vehicle, regardless of whether the VIN is directly applied to the Permanent structure of the vehicle or indirectly applied upon a separate plate affixed to such a part. This is to avoid any misinterpretation of a VIN, particularly if a VIN is repaired.
- (c) The VIN shall also appear on the compliance plate in accordance with AMVCB Circular No 0-3-2, Compliance Plates.
- (d) At the option of the manufacturer, the VIN may also appear with other information on a manufacturer's vehicle identification plate, in addition to the location requirements specified in (b) above.

9. Durability

- (a) The VIN shall be impressed, embossed, etched or fabricated in a similarly, durable manner in the material of the vehicle or on a separate plate. Plates shall be made of metal.

Materials subject to corrosion should be protected to minimise risk of loss of the VIN.

- (b) A VIN plate shall be affixed in a manner preventing, as far as it is practicable

to do so, removal, replacement or alteration without detection. The VIN plate shall be affixed by welding. Tamper proof rivets, hammer drive screws or other method approved by the Board.

REPORTING OF VIN TO ADMINISTRATOR

10. General

All VIN's assigned to vehicles with a "Date of Manufacture" of 1 January 1989 and subsequent dates shall be reported to the Administrator's nominee being the NSW Department of Motor Transport.

11. Transmission of VIN Data

A manufacturer shall transmit VIN data by electronic transmission with the Telecom Electronic Message Management Service at least one week prior to vehicles being presented for first registration anywhere in Australia.

12. Repaired VIN

Any VIN that has been repaired in accordance with Para 7 of this code shall be specifically noted when reported to the Administrator's nominee.

REPORTING OF VIN CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

13. A manufacturer shall furnish to the Board all relevant information on the VIN content and structure for each specific vehicle model and variants with applications for Compliance Plate Approvals or Amending Compliance Plate Approvals on the New Vehicle Specification (NVS) sheets. This will include all Compliance Plate Approvals valid as at 1 January 1989 and subsequent dates.
14. A manufacturer shall furnish all relevant information on the VIN content and structure for "running change" additional model/variants with applications for Amending Compliance Plate Approvals on updated NVS sheets, on or after 1 January 1989. These shall be provided at least one month before the "running change" is likely to come into effect.
15. For those manufacturers who are importers of vehicles under the low volume scheme and have no direct access to the vehicle builder it shall not be mandatory to submit a VIN content and structure. Should the VIN not conform to the requirements of ADR 43/01, Clause 43.3.0.1 the importer will be allocated a VIN for each of such vehicles by the Administrator's nominee.

DISTRIBUTION OF VIN CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

16. The Board shall distribute to all State and Territory vehicle registering authorities in Australia, New Vehicle Specification (NVS) sheets with all relevant VIN content and structure for each specific vehicle model and variants provided by a manufacturer in support of applications for Compliance Plate Approvals valid as at 1 January 1989 and subsequent dates.