

Motor Vehicle Registry Vehicle Inspectors Bulletin

VIB19 – Inspection Types

Purpose

The purpose of this Bulletin is to outline the vehicle inspection regime in the Northern Territory.

Authorisation

[Motor Vehicles Act](#) - Sections 15, 127, 128 and 128A

Vehicle Inspections Types

Compliance Check

A compliance check is an inspection of a vehicle's identifiers or identification numbers by an approved person. Its aim is to ensure that the vehicle identifiers are not missing or altered in any way and to ensure that the vehicle corresponds with the registration application details and/or information contained on a registration authority's data base.

Compliance checks are required on all vehicles:

- when presented for first registration in the Northern Territory; or
- when confirmation of vehicle identification or vehicle description is required.

Compliance inspections are outlined in **Appendix A** – “NT Vehicle Inspection Regime – Compliance Checks and Roadworthy Inspections”.

Transport Inspectors, Police Officers and approved persons may carry out compliance checks. Approved Authorised Inspectors may carry out compliance checks on factory new vehicles only. In remote regional areas, special inspection arrangements are made for compliance checks.

There is no fee for a compliance check.

There is no expiry on a compliance check.

Roadworthy Inspections

A roadworthy inspection is an inspection of a motor vehicle undertaken by a Transport Inspector, Police Officer or an Approved Authorised Inspector for ensuring compliance with roadworthy and safety standards for registration.

Periodic roadworthy inspections are determined by the vehicle type and vehicle category as outlined in **Appendix A** – “NT Vehicle Inspection Regime – Compliance Checks and Roadworthy Inspections”.

Roadworthy inspection fees are prescribed. Current inspection fees can be viewed at <https://nt.gov.au/driving/fees/registration-fees>

Vehicle Identity Validation Inspections

A Vehicle Identity Validation (VIV) inspection is an inspection of a vehicle that has been recorded on a Written-Off Vehicle Register (WOVR). Its purpose is to establish if the repaired vehicle is the same vehicle that was written-off.

Transport Inspectors and Police may perform VIV inspections.

VIV inspections are required on all vehicles that have been recorded and are not cleared on the WOVR and are seeking re-registration or establishing registration in the NT.

Vehicles recorded as non-repairable statutory write-offs on the NT's WOVR or on National Exchange of Vehicle and Driver Information System are suitable for wrecking and spare parts only and **will not** be registered.

A complete VIV inspection is made up of the following processes:

- Inspection of vehicle identifiers (Compliance check);
- Assessment of relevant documents in accordance with “Information Bulletin V74 Re-registration of a Repairable Write-off”;
- Assessment of damage location as detailed on a WOVR for evidence of repairs; and
- Obtaining Stolen Motor Vehicle clearance from an appropriate authority.

The fee for a VIV inspection is the same for a roadworthy inspection.

There is no expiry on a VIV inspection.

Stolen Motor Vehicle (SMV) Inspections

A Stolen Motor Vehicle (SMV) Inspection may be required when a vehicle fails a compliance check or where appropriate authority clearance is required as part of a VIV inspection.

Transport Inspectors notify the appropriate authority by requesting the inspection.

No registration is offered until the vehicle has been cleared by the appropriate authority.

There is no prescribed fee for an SMV inspection.

There is no expiry on a SMV inspection.

Defect Clearing Inspections

A defect clearing inspection is required to clear a vehicle of defects outlined in a defect notice and includes a full roadworthy inspection.

Defect notices are issued by Transport Inspectors or the Police to the owner or person having custody of a registered vehicle where the vehicle does not comply with roadworthy or safety standards.

Once a defect notice is issued, the vehicle is defective and is issued a defect label.

Transport Inspectors or Police may clear a defective vehicle and defect notice. In remote and regional areas, Authorised Inspectors may provide an inspection report as evidence that the vehicle is roadworthy so that the defect notice can be cleared. The inspection report provided by an Authorised Inspector must note the following: ***“Defect clearing inspection only”***.

The prescribed fee is the same as a roadworthy inspection.

A defect clearing inspection can be conducted in conjunction with a roadworthy inspection for the renewal of registration during the validity period. This will only attract a single inspection fee.

Call-in Inspections

A call-in inspection is required to clear a vehicle that has been issued a call-in notice.

A call-in notice is issued to the owner of the vehicle when possible faults are suspected and verification of the vehicle condition is required.

Call-in notices are issued by Transport Inspectors and cleared by Transport Inspectors following a full inspection of the vehicle.

If faults are detected during the call-in inspection, the vehicle may be defected. In this case, a defect inspection fee will apply when the vehicle is presented for a defect clearing inspection.

There is no prescribed fee for a call-in inspection.

There is no expiry on a call-in inspection.

Rating Inspection

An initial rating inspection is required on heavy vehicles to determine vehicle component ratings are suitable for the transport task.

Specific component ratings are required when operating in various configurations and schemes.

Rating inspections are conducted by Transport Inspectors.

There is no prescribed fee for a rating inspection.

A rating inspection can be conducted in conjunction with any other inspection and will only attract a single inspection fee.

Livestock Rating Inspection

An initial livestock rating inspection is required for heavy vehicles to determine if vehicle component ratings are suitable for use in the livestock loading scheme.

Rating inspections are conducted by Transport Inspectors.

There is no prescribed fee for a livestock rating inspection.

A livestock rating inspection can be conducted in conjunction with any other inspection and will only attract a single inspection fee.

Commercial Passenger Vehicle (CPV) Inspection

A CPV inspection is required on vehicles (except Courtesy Vehicles) that are operated for hire or reward and involves an inspection for compliance with the relevant in-service maintenance standards for the CPV category.

A CPV inspection applies when a vehicle enters a CPV category either as a new registration or from private registration or when changing from one CPV category to another CPV category.

A roadworthy inspection is conducted with a CPV inspection.

An annual roadworthy inspection applies to a CPV unless exempted under an approved vehicle maintenance scheme or a Courtesy Vehicle. A roadworthy inspection for a Courtesy Vehicle is at the same frequency as a privately registered vehicle.

CPV inspections are conducted by Transport Inspectors. In remote locations, special inspection arrangements are made for a CPV.

The CPV inspection fee is the same fee for a roadworthy inspection. When conducted in conjunction with a roadworthy inspection, a single inspection fee applies.

Schedule of Vehicle Inspections – Appendix A

NT Vehicle Inspection Regime – Compliance Checks and Roadworthy Inspections

Item	Vehicle Category	First NT Registration		NT Registration Renewal (including previously NT Registration)	
		Compliance Check	Roadworthy Inspection	Compliance Check	Roadworthy Inspection
a)	Motor Vehicle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to and including 4.5 tonne GVM & • Less than 5 years old 	✓	✗	A	✗
b)	Motor Vehicle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to and including 4.5 tonne GVM & • From 5 years old & • Less than 10 years old 	✓	✓	A	B
c)	Motor Vehicle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to and including 4.5 tonne GVM & • From 10 years old 	✓	✓	A	C
d)	Motor Vehicle or Trailer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 4.5 tonne GVM / ATM • Except Factory NEW Rigid Trucks not more than 24.0 tonne GVM 	✓	✓	A	C
e)	Motor Vehicle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Factory NEW Rigid Trucks more than 4.5 tonne GVM up to and including 24.0 tonne GVM 	✓	✗	N/A	N/A
f)	Trailer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not more than 500kg tare or • Not more than 750kg ATM & • Less than 5 years old 	✓	✗	A	✗
g)	Trailer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not more than 500kg tare or • Not more than 750kg ATM & • From 5 years old & • Less than 10 years old 	✓	✓	A	✗
h)	Trailer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 500kg tare or • More than 750kg ATM & • Not more than 4.5 tonne ATM & • Less than 5 years old 	✓	✗	A	✗
i)	Trailer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 500kg tare or • More than 750kg ATM & • Not more than 4.5 tonne ATM & • From 5 years old & • Less than 10 years old 	✓	✓	A	B
j)	Trailer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 500kg tare or • More than 750kg ATM & • Not more than 4.5 tonne ATM & • From 10 years old 	✓	✓	A	C

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NT Vehicle Inspection Regime – Compliance Checks and Roadworthy Inspections

Item	Vehicle Category	First NT Registration		NT Registration Renewal	
		Compliance Check	Roadworthy Inspection	Compliance Check	Roadworthy Inspection
k)	Commercial Passenger Vehicle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxis • Minibuses • Private Hire Cars • Limousines • Ridesharing • Vehicles registered as Tourist Vehicles (TV) • Passenger Buses registered as Motor Omnibus (MO) • Special Function Vehicles 	✓	D	A	C

Legend

- A** Compliance check only if vehicle details do not match
- B** First roadworthy inspection required from 5 years old and next roadworthy inspection from 10 years old
- C** Annual roadworthy inspection, unless exempted under an approved vehicle maintenance scheme
- D** CPV inspection with roadworthy inspection

Notes for Guidance

1. No inspection required on transfer of ownership provided vehicle has current NT registration and inspection is not due.
2. NEW Rigid Truck means a factory new heavy rigid vehicle (greater than 4.5t GVM up to and including 24.0t GVM) that has never been registered
3. The age of the vehicle is determined by vehicle's compliance plate or specifications provided by the vehicle manufacturer and, unless otherwise specified, is taken from the first day of the month
4. Transport fees <https://nt.gov.au/driving/fees>