

Authorised Inspection Scheme

Notice 37

Identification (ID) number requests for pre 1989 trailers – Amendments to the trailer identity check standards

Effective Date: 1 July 2023

Version Number: 02 Rev.0

Purpose

To provide guidance for Authorised Inspection Scheme (AIS) proprietors, nominees, alternative nominees and examiners when requesting identification (ID) numbers for pre 1989 trailers. Transport for NSW (Transport) are publishing this notice advising a change to the process of obtaining an identification number for pre 1989 trailers.

This process is to be followed when a trailer is presented that has never had a vehicle identification number. For a trailer that has had its identifier removed (such as by tampering or modification) complete the [Vehicle Identification Referral form](#).

Background

Trailers constructed prior to 1 January 1989 were not required to be issued with vehicle identifiers by the manufacturer. To establish registration, Transport issues pre 1989 trailers with a unique identification number.

The application requires AIS examiners to conduct inquiries of a vehicle by confirming the consistency of the proof of origin provided and to forward this evidence to Transport for assessment.

Feedback from AIS examiners and pre-1989 trailer customers identified the need to address delays in processing ID requests primarily. Transport has reviewed the process of issuing unique identifiers for pre 1989 trailers and is providing clearer guidelines on the application eligibility criteria and supporting evidence. This will support both customers and AIS examiners in completing the application forms and streamline processing time.

Changes to application form

AUVIS examiners are still required to submit the [Request for Vehicle Information form](#) on behalf of the applicant. This form has been updated to better clarify the eligibility criteria and supporting evidence required for pre-1989 trailers.

Acceptable evidence to confirm proof of origin may include any of the following **clearly stating the make/model of the trailer and the date of manufacture**:

- Paper Certificate of Registration, renewal notice or other jurisdiction's registration document
- Motor dealer's notice of sale

- Bill of sale, receipt, or tax invoice
- Notice of Disposal (NOD)
- Will or probate, written advice from the Executor, Letters of Administration
- Written advice from a solicitor or letter from the NSW Trustee and Guardian (previously 'public trustee')
- Motor vehicle sale contracts

If the application is not complete (i.e. if the applicant can't provide proof of origin) the application will be denied.

What do I need to do?

When a customer contacts you to make an appointment for an inspection of a pre 1989 trailer, remind the customer to bring along the relevant supporting documentation.

If there is no identification number (VIN or chassis number) on a pre 1989 trailer frame, the trailer has never had a vehicle identification number and there is no evidence of tampering or modifications, you will need to request an ID number and provide the following:

- A completed [Request for Vehicle Information form](#),
- Clear photos of all four sides of the trailer and draw bar, and
- Documented evidence of the vehicle's origin (ie proof the vehicle was constructed prior to 1989).

Send the completed form and supporting evidence to the Vehicle Identification Unit vins@transport.nsw.gov.au.

If approved, the Transport officer will issue an identification number outlining the stamping requirements. NOTE: The allocated identifier does not include the letters I, O and Q.

It is the vehicle owner's responsibility to ensure the new identifier is stamped correctly. It must be stamped on an integral part of the trailer frame, preferably on the 'A' frame. The characters of the new identifier must be legible, uniform, in one line and less than one character-width apart. The stamping dies used must be the same size and font. Double stamped and incorrectly stamped characters are unacceptable.

Once the new number has been stamped on the trailer, send a photo of the stamping to the Vehicle Identification Unit vins@transport.nsw.gov.au.

The issued identification number for a pre 1989 trailer is to be input into the chassis field on the Authorised Unregistered Vehicle Inspection Report.

Amendments to AIS Business Rules

This document creates Rules for the purposes of clause 70 of the Road Transport (Vehicle Registration) Regulation 2017. It is a condition of an authority that an examiner or proprietor must comply with the Rules.

This notice is an amendment to Rule 221 – Trailers and caravans VIN/Chassis number of the Identity check standards for AUVIS and as such now forms part of the rules.

Further information

Transport for NSW Vehicle Identification Unit

T 02 8335 9470

E vins@transport.nsw.gov.au

Useful links

[Trailers built prior to 1989](#)

[How to register a vehicle](#)

[Buying and registering a vehicle](#)