



Vehicle Inspection Program Bulletin

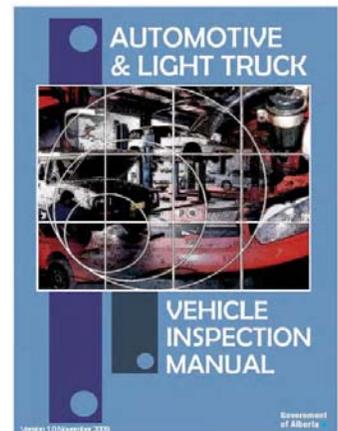
Friday, December 18, 2009

An Updated Automotive & Light Truck Manual is Online!

The Vehicle Inspection Program has released an updated Automotive & Light Truck Vehicle Inspection Manual. This updated manual has received a major overhaul and contains a significant number of updates. The manual has also gone through a consultation process with vehicle inspection facilities, technicians and training institutions to ensure it is both informative and user friendly.

All Out of Province and Salvage inspection technicians need to obtain the updated manual. Download your FREE copy from our website.

The Automotive & Light Truck manual has been designed to follow the steps a technician would take when completing an Out of Province or Salvage vehicle inspection. It also includes a newly created Record of Inspection (ROI), which follows the steps outlined in the updated manual. The Vehicle Safety Section recommends using the digital version of the ROI provided for each vehicle inspection completed. Using the digital version of the ROI will enable the technician to insert the inspection and vehicle information prior to printing. Upon completion of the vehicle inspection the original ROI can be given to the customer and a copy retained by the facility.



Now Available Online

The updated manual is available for download on our website at www.transportation.alberta.ca/vipmanuals

This electronic version will allow the Vehicle Safety Section to update the vehicle inspection standards without requiring technicians to purchase a new manual; ensuring inspection technicians will always have access to the latest revisions and the public will be fully aware of the current criteria and legislation associated with Out of Province and Salvage vehicle inspections.

Printed copies will continue to be available from Riley's Reproductions & Printing at a cost of \$19.95 (plus shipping and GST). Please visit www.rileys.com or call 1-800-563-1542 to inquire about printed copies.

Registering Your Copy Of The Manual

Inspection technicians will need to notify the Vehicle Safety Section once they have obtained a copy of the updated Automotive & Light Truck manual. A registration form can be found at the bottom of the 'Welcome' page in the updated manual or on the 'Manuals' page of our website.

The completed form must be sent to the Vehicle Safety Section through one of the following methods:

- **Email:** Vehicle.Safety@gov.ab.ca
- **Fax:** 780-988-7628
- **Mail:** 4999 – 98 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB, T6B 2X3

eFacility

The Vehicle Safety Section is developing an online system for submitting inspection certificates called eFacility. This system will provide facilities the ability to submit inspections to Alberta Transportation in real time and eliminate rejected and revoked inspection certificates. Utilizing eFacility will also mean an end to purchasing books of inspection certificates (**Note**--*Commercial facilities will still be required to purchase decals*).

While still in the early stages, we plan to release eFacility within 18 months and slowly phase it in. Stay tuned for more information on the eFacility project.



Facility Operating Manual Clarifications

Attachment 5

Section 1 indicates the requirement to enter the seating capacity of a School Bus, Commercial Bus or Motor Coach as registered. Section 4 indicated the accuracy of the registration documents may not be correct. The vehicle inspection technician must verify the seating capacity with the Manufactures Label to ensure these are the same. Removing seats does not change the vehicle's seating capacity. Please advise vehicle owners of this error when found and only enter the seating capacity as identified on the Manufactures Label.

Further questions about Attachment 5 should be directed to the Commercial Records Analyst at 780-422-9135, toll free within Alberta by dialing 310-0000.

Attachment 10, Section 3

Provides direction on what information is to be recorded on a Record of Inspection (ROI). The information to be recorded on a ROI shall correspond with the inspection items listed in the Commercial Vehicle Inspection Manual as per the applicable vehicle type.

Further questions about Attachment 10 should be directed to our Vehicle Specialists at 780-427-8901, toll free within Alberta by dialing 310-0000.

Motor Coach Fires

Recent fires in the United States and Canada involving motor coaches, with alternators equipped with oil pressured cooling lines, have prompted the need for more stringent inspections in this area.

To minimize fluid fires, all hoses, housings, couplings, fittings and filters must be inspected diligently to reduce or eliminate leaks which could lead to a fire.

Motor Coach Fires--Continued

Two important steps in reducing engine fires:

1. Regularly clean the engine, transmission and interior compartment
2. Reduce the point of an auto ignition source by maintaining proper electrical component maintenance

The need is critical in these areas for ensuring the safety of all those involved in the motor coach industry.

Further questions about motor coach fires should be directed to the Commercial Vehicle Specialist at 780-644-8949, toll free within Alberta by dialing 310-0000.

Window Tint

Alberta's Vehicle Equipment Regulation (AR 122/2009), Sections 70(1) through 70(7) prohibits the installation of any "tinting film" to the windshield and the windows to the left and right of the driver.

If the rear window is tinted in a manner that obstructs or interferes with the use of the interior rear view mirror, the motor vehicle must be equipped with an exterior mirror on each side of the vehicle (see Sections 69(2) and 72(2) of the Vehicle Equipment Regulation).

The primary concern is that tinting the windshield or side glass can restrict the ability of drivers or other road users to see one another. Window tinting can also affect police officer safety at the road side.

However, the issue is not only one of seeing and being seen, a film affixed to the side glass greatly changes the way safety glass reacts should the vehicle be involved in a collision. In a collision the side glass on a motor vehicle is designed to shatter, reducing the overall potential hazard to the vehicle occupants. In a collision a film, by reinforcing the side glass or by holding glass fragments together, significantly increases the likelihood that a vehicle occupant sitting next to it is injured or worse.



Further questions on how window tint affects a vehicle, should be directed to the Motor Vehicle Specialist at 780-427-6798, toll free within Alberta by dialing 310-0000.

Brake Question

Do I need to remove the wheel ends when doing a brake inspection on a vehicle with removable backing plates?

If the technician finds a defect of any wheel brake components during an inspection, the defective brake must be disassembled as required for repairs and further inspection.

The following brake component measurements must be taken for every wheel brake of every vehicle inspection and the measurements must be recorded in the appropriate section of the inspection form:

- a. The thickness of the thinnest brake shoe lining (brake shoe lining measurements must be taken near the centre of the shoe at the inner or outer edge).

- b. Internal diameter of the brake drum **OR** the degrees of camshaft rotation.

Technicians are required to ensure all brake components and brake functions meet the applicable standards as set out in the Commercial Vehicle Inspection Manual.

Progressive Discipline

The Investigations Unit of the Vehicle Safety Section administers the Progressive Discipline Program. The progressive discipline process includes warning notices, administrative penalties, licence conditions, technician competency testing, suspensions and cancelation of licences.

The following are specific types of violations that have resulted in administrative penalties and the Vehicle Safety Section would like technicians and facilities to pay particular attention to:

- Completion of Record of Inspection (ROI) forms for each vehicle inspection;
- All vehicles must be scanned when completing an Out of Province or Salvage vehicle inspection;
- Vehicle inspection certificates must not be signed prior to the vehicle inspection being completed.

Certificate Concerns

The number of rejected Commercial Vehicle Inspection (CVI) certificates has been on the rise. Please ensure you use the original date of inspection in the "Inspection Date" field when doing a replacement.

Technicians and facilities can assist the department by ensuring that all completed certificates are sent to the mailing address below:

Government of Alberta
Vehicle Safety Section
Box 900, Station Main
Edmonton, AB
T5J 2L8

New Technician Applications

Have you seen the new technician applications on our website?

The Vehicle Safety Section has enhanced the technician applications on our website. They can be completed electronically and contain additional information to aid in the application process.

Old versions of technician applications cannot be accepted, so facilities that have older versions on file are encouraged to direct their technicians to our website.

All applications for the Vehicle Inspection Program can be found at www.transportation.alberta.ca/viplicensing



Recall Information

In an effort to heighten client service and customer care all vehicle inspection facilities and technicians are encouraged to advise customers to verify any outstanding safety recalls have been completed on the vehicle being submitted for inspection.

Recall information is available on Transport Canada's website, which is searchable by make, model and year, at:

<http://www.wapps.tc.gc.ca/saf-sec-sur/7/vrdb-bdrv/search/Search.aspx?lang=eng>

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