



Vehicle Inspection Program Bulletin

The Southern Alberta flooding is without precedent. Some vehicles have been flooded or submerged in water and may not get reported to an insurance company.

A flood vehicle is defined in Canada as a vehicle that has been immersed in a liquid to the bottom of the dashboard* or to a level affecting any of the major electronic components, and/or a vehicle contaminated with toxic fluid that renders the vehicle unsafe due to toxic hazard.

Major electrical components are defined as:

- A fuse panel or breaker panel.
- A component that monitors, triggers, or controls any component of the vehicle's occupant restraint systems.
- An electronic component that transmits or relays power for use in the vehicle's defogging or defrosting systems.
- An electronic component or module that controls the vehicle's primary operating systems.
- A main wiring harness with unsealed connections that is located in the occupant compartment.
- An electronic module that controls the vehicle's on board self-diagnostic system, excluding communications, navigational and entertainment systems.
- An electronic module that controls the vehicle's braking, acceleration, steering or any other systems affecting the drivability or safe operation of the vehicle.

**The bottom of the dashboard is defined as the area where the floor meets the firewall.*

Alberta's *Vehicle Inspection Regulation* requires all motor vehicles that have been submerged in water to a level at or above the bottom of the dash be assigned a status of "nonrepairable".

Any vehicle being brought in for repair that meets the above criteria should be reported to Alberta Transportation. These vehicles should not be repaired, as they pose a possible safety risk to the motoring public.

If a flood vehicle comes in for repairs please send the following information to the Vehicle Safety Investigations team at vsi@gov.ab.ca:

- A photo of the VIN plate;
- Photos showing the 4 corners of the vehicle;
- Photos indicating the water level (i.e. water marks or areas showing water intrusion)
- The vehicle mileage (if possible)
- A written statement from the technician that outlines the flood damaged observed
- Facility name and phone number
- Technician name

Additional questions or concerns can be directed to the Motor Vehicle Inspection Specialist at vehicle.safety@gov.ab.ca or by calling 780-427-6798, toll free within Alberta by first dialing 310-0000.