



INFORMATION FOR NEW MANUFACTURERS OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND MOTOR VEHICLE EQUIPMENT

(10-99)

PURPOSE:

To identify relevant Federal statutes and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) standards and other regulations that affect motor vehicle and motor vehicle equipment manufacturers. This information document merely highlights the major requirements for manufacturers; each manufacturer should consult the specific statutes, regulations, and standards to determine its responsibilities. All references below to NHTSA regulations are found in *Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 400-999*. This manual also refers to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) which are found at 49 CFR Part 571 (see page 7).

FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS (FMVSS) and REGULATIONS:

Title 49 U.S.C. 30111 authorizes NHTSA to issue safety standards for new motor vehicles and new motor vehicle equipment. All motor vehicles and items of motor vehicle equipment manufactured or imported for sale in the United States must comply with all applicable FMVSS. Certain motor vehicles must also comply with regulations at 49 CFR Parts 541, *Theft Prevention* and 581, *Bumper Standard*.

Information that must be submitted to NHTSA or applied to product by all motor vehicle or motor vehicle equipment manufacturers (equipment covered by FMVSS) offering products for use in the USA
NOTE: *Foreign motor vehicle equipment manufacturers (equipment covered by FMVSS) must designate an "Agent for Service of Process" before offering products for importation in the USA.*

Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (including Final Stage and Alterers) or Motor Vehicle Equipment Manufacturers	Required Submissions	Certification of Compliance
Domestic motor vehicles	Part 565, Part 566 <i>(Part 565 not required of final stage manufacturers or alterers)</i>	Must attach Part 567 Certification Label to vehicle; final stage mfgs and alterers must attach labels respectively §567.5 and §567.7
Foreign motor vehicles	Part 551.45, Part 565, Part 566 <i>(Part 565 not required of final stage manufacturers or alterers)</i>	Must attach Part 567 Certification Label to vehicle; final stage mfgs and alterers must attach labels respectively §567.5 and §567.7
Domestic manufacturers of seat belts	Part 566	Must attach manufacturer's information to fabric
Foreign manufacturers of seat belts	Part 551.45, Part 566	Must attach manufacturer's information to fabric
Domestic manufacturers of brake hose, brake hose assemblies, lamps and (other than passenger car) rims	Part 566, Brake hose and brake hose assembly manufacturers must also file their designation (symbol) with NHTSA	DOT symbol and manufacturer's designation (symbol) on product
Foreign manufacturers of brake hose, brake hose assemblies, lamps and (other than passenger car) rims	Part 551.45, Part 566, Brake hose, and brake hose assembly manufacturers must also file their designation (symbol) with NHTSA	DOT symbol and manufacturer's designation (symbol) on product
Domestic manufacturers of glazing, new tires, passenger car retreaded tires	Part 566 (glazing), Part 574.6 (tires) Must secure an identifier from NHTSA to label products	DOT symbol and manufacturer's identifier on product
Foreign manufacturers of glazing, new tires, passenger car retreaded tires	Part 551.45, Part 566 (glazing), Part 574.6 (tires), Must secure an identifier from NHTSA to label products	DOT symbol and manufacturer's identifier on product

Manufacturers of motor vehicles must certify compliance of their products in accordance with Part 567, *Certification*. Persons finishing an incomplete vehicle must submit information in accordance with Part 566, *Manufacturer Identification*, and certify compliance of a vehicle in accordance with Part 567 and Part 568, *Vehicles Manufactured In Two Or More Stages*. Persons altering a new vehicle prior to its first sale to a consumer, must submit information in accordance with Part 566, *Manufacturer Identification*. Vehicle alterers, under Part 567.7, *Requirements for Persons Who Alter Certified Vehicles*, are required to certify that vehicles, as altered, continue to comply with FMVSS.

DESIGNATION OF AGENT FOR FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS: Part 551, *Procedural Rules*, requires all manufacturers offering motor vehicles or equipment for importation into the United States to designate a permanent resident of the United States as the manufacturer's agent for service of all process, notices, orders, and decisions. This designation must be mailed to the NHTSA Chief Counsel (Section 551.45).

VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (VIN): Part 565, *Vehicle Identification Number*, requires each motor vehicle to have a VIN. The content requirements for the VIN are in Part 565.6. The requirement for manufacturers to submit VIN identifiers to the NHTSA VIN Coordinator is in Section 565.7(c).

MANUFACTURER IDENTIFICATION: Part 566, *Manufacturer Identification*, requires each manufacturer of motor vehicles or motor vehicle equipment, to which a FMVSS applies, to submit information identifying itself and its products to NHTSA no later than 30 days after it begins production of that product and to submit revised information not later than 30 days after the relevant change occurs.

CONSUMER INFORMATION: Part 575, *Consumer Information*, requires manufacturers to make specific information available to consumers.

BUMPERS: 49 U.S.C. 32502 directs NHTSA to issue and enforce bumper standards for passenger vehicles to reduce the economic loss resulting from damage to cars involved in motor vehicle accidents. Part 581, *Bumper Standard*, sets forth the requirements for passenger vehicles.

TIRES and RIMS: In addition to the safety standards for tires in FMVSS 109, 117, 119, and 129, manufacturers of tires should also consult Part 569, *Regrooved Tires*, and Part 574, *Tire Identification and Recordkeeping*. Information concerning tire and rim selection requirements are found in FMVSS 110 and 120.

SAFETY-RELATED DEFECTS AND NONCOMPLIANCES: 49 U.S.C. 30118 requires manufacturers to notify purchasers of motor vehicles or motor vehicle equipment containing safety-related defects and failures to comply with the standards. 49 U.S.C. 30120 requires manufacturers to remedy such defects and noncompliances without charge. The following regulations relate to defect and noncompliance notification and remedy campaigns: Part 556, *Exemption for Inconsequential Defect or Noncompliance*; Part 573, *Defect and Noncompliance Reports*; Part 577, *Defect and Noncompliance Notification*; and Part 579, *Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility*. Part 576, *Record Retention*, sets forth requirements for motor vehicle manufacturers' retention of complaints, reports, and other records concerning safety-related motor vehicle malfunctions.

VIOLATIONS: Each violation is punishable by a civil penalty of up to \$1,100 per violation, with a maximum of \$925,000 for a related series of violations (49 U.S.C. 30165, 49 CFR Part 578, *Civil Penalties*).

FUEL ECONOMY: 49 U.S.C. 32911 requires manufacturers to comply with the applicable average fuel economy standard. Each passenger automobile or light truck manufacturer must achieve a minimum corporate average fuel economy (CAFÉ) or be subject to penalties for violations. Standards for passenger cars are found in Part 531, *Passenger Automobile Average Fuel Economy Standards*. Standards for light duty trucks are found in Part 533, *Light Truck Fuel Economy Standards*. Manufacturers are required to file CAFÉ reports under Part 537, *Automotive Fuel Economy Reports*. Several regulations provide procedures under which manufacturers may apply for exemptions from or for flexibility in achieving compliance with the CAFÉ standards. See Part 525, *Exemptions from Average Fuel Economy Standards* (for low-volume manufacturers); Part 526, *Petitions and Plans for Relief Under the Automobile Fuel Efficiency Act of 1980*; and Part 535, *Three-year Carryforward and Carryback of Credits for Light Trucks*. Credits may also be available for a manufacturer of passenger cars under 49 U.S.C. 32901. Manufacturers should also be aware of Part 529, *Manufacturers of Multistage Automobiles*.

THEFT PREVENTION: 49 U.S.C. 33102 and 33103 require motor vehicle manufacturers to affix or inscribe anti-theft identification markings to major parts and replacement parts for certain lines of passenger cars, light trucks and MPVs designated as high theft lines. Part 541, *Federal Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Standard* identifies the requirements which became effective in model year (MY) 1987 for passenger cars and MY 1997 for light trucks and multipurpose passenger vehicles. Part 542, *Procedures for Selecting Lines to be Covered by the Theft Prevention Standard*, requires a manufacturer to submit information to determine if a new line is covered by the standard. Part 543, *Exemption from Vehicle Theft Prevention Standard*, describes how to petition the agency for an exemption from the parts marking provisions of Part 541 when the carline has an anti-theft device installed as standard equipment.

DOMESTIC CONTENT PARTS LABELING: 49 CFR Part 583, *Automobile Parts Content Labeling*, establishes requirements for the disclosure of information relating to the countries or origin of the equipment of new passenger motor vehicles.

REQUESTS FOR INTERPRETATIONS: Persons requesting an interpretation of NHTSA regulations and standards should write the Office of Chief Counsel. Existing interpretations may be found at the NHTSA website: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/cars/rules/interps/.

OTHER REGULATORY AGENCIES: Persons requiring information on motor vehicle emission standards should contact the Office of Mobile Sources, Environmental Protection Agency.

Persons requiring information for importation of motor vehicles, and motor vehicle equipment should contact their local U.S. Customs Service Office.

Manufacturers should also contact appropriate State authorities to determine if any State laws apply to their business. An excellent source of information concerning State requirements is the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators.

FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS (FMVSS); APPLICABILITY								
49 CFR Part 571								
FMVSS Number	Passenger Car	MPV Lt Truck (1)	Heavy	Bus	Motorcycle	Trailer	Equipment	Low-speed
100 Series (Crash Avoidance)								
101 Controls and Displays	●	●	●	●				
102 Transmission Shift Lever Sequence	●	●	●	●				
103 Windshield Defrosting and Defogging Systems	●	●	●	●				
104 Windshield Wiping and Washing Systems	●	●	●	●				
105 Hydraulic and Electric Brake Systems	●	●	●	●				
106 Brake Hoses	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
108 Lamps, Reflective Devices and Associated Equipment	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
109 New Pneumatic Tires	(3)	(4)		(4)		(4)	●	
110 Tire Selection and Rims	●						●	
111 Rearview Mirrors	●	●	●	● (5)	●			
113 Hood Latch System	●	●	●	●				
114 Theft Prevention	●	●						
116 Hydraulic Brake Fluids	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
117 Retreaded Pneumatic Tires (passenger cars)							●	
118 Power-Operated Window Systems	●	●						
119 New Pneumatic Tires for Trucks, Buses etc.		(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	●	
120 Tire Selection and Rims for Trucks, Buses etc.		●	●	●	●	●	●	
121 Air Brake Systems			●	●		●		
122 Motorcycle Brake Systems					●			
123 Motorcycle Controls and Displays					●			
124 Accelerator Control Systems	●	●	●	●				
125 Warning Devices							●	
129 New Non-Pneumatic Tires for Passenger Cars	(3)	(4)					●	
131 School Bus Pedestrian Safety Devices				● (5)				
135 Passenger Car Brake Systems	●	● (6)						

49 CFR Part 571								
FMVSS Number	Passenger Car	MPV Lt Truck (1)	Heavy	Bus	Motorcycle	Trailer	Equipment	Low-speed
200 Series (Crash Worthiness)								
201 Occupant Protection in Interior Impact	●	●		● (1)				
202 Head Restraints	●	●		● (1)				
203 Impact Protection for Driver Steering Controls	●	●		● (1)				
204 Steering Control Rearward Displacement	●	●		●				
205 Glazing Materials	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)		●	(7)
206 Door Locks and Retention Components	●	●	●					
207 Seating Systems	●	●	●	●				
208 Occupant Crash Protection	●	●	●	●				
209 Seat Belt Assemblies	(7)	(7)	(7)	(7)			●	
210 Seat Belt Assembly Anchorages	●	●	●	●				
212 Windshield Mounting	●	●		● (1)				
213 Child Restraint Systems	●	●		●			●	
214 Side Impact Protection	●	●		● (1)				
216 Roof Crush Resistance	●	● (8)		● (8,9)				
217 Bus Emergency Exits and Window Retention				●				
218 Motorcycle Helmets							●	
219 Windshield Zone Intrusion	●	●		● (1)				
220 School Bus Rollover Protection				● (5)				
221 School Bus Body Joint Strength				● (5)				
222 School Bus Seating and Crash Protection				● (5)				
223 Rear Impact Guards							●	
224 Rear Impact Protection						● (2)		
225 Child Restraint Anchorage Systems	●	● (10)		● (1)				

49 CFR Part 571 FMVSS Number	Passenger Car	MPV Lt Truck (1)	Heavy	Bus	Motorcycle	Trailer	Equipment	Low-speed		
300 Series (Post Crash Protection)										
301 Fuel System Integrity	●	●		● (5)						
302 Flammability of Interior Materials	●	●	●	●						
303 Fuel System Integrity of Compressed Natural Gas Vehicles	●	●		● (1,5)						
304 Compressed Natural Gas Fuel Container Integrity							●			
500 Series (Low-Speed Vehicles)										
500 Low-Speed Vehicles								●		
<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> (1) Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) less than or equal to 4,536 Kg (10,000 lb) (2) GVWR greater than 4,536 Kg (10,000 lb) (3) See FMVSS No. 110 (4) See FMVSS No. 120 (5) Applies to or has different requirements for School Buses </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> (6) GVWR less than or equal to 3,500 Kg (7,716 lb) (7) For use in (8) GVWR less than or equal to 2,722 Kg (6,001 lb) (9) Does not apply to School Buses (10) GVWR less than or equal to 3,855 Kg (8,500 lb) </td> </tr> </table>									(1) Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) less than or equal to 4,536 Kg (10,000 lb) (2) GVWR greater than 4,536 Kg (10,000 lb) (3) See FMVSS No. 110 (4) See FMVSS No. 120 (5) Applies to or has different requirements for School Buses	(6) GVWR less than or equal to 3,500 Kg (7,716 lb) (7) For use in (8) GVWR less than or equal to 2,722 Kg (6,001 lb) (9) Does not apply to School Buses (10) GVWR less than or equal to 3,855 Kg (8,500 lb)
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Passenger Car: Motor vehicle with motive power, except a low-speed vehicle, multipurpose passenger vehicle, motorcycle or trailer designed for carrying 10 persons or less.

Multipurpose Passenger Vehicle: Motor vehicle with motive power, except a low-speed vehicle or a trailer designed to carry 10 persons or less which is constructed either on a truck chassis or with special features for occasional off-road operation.

Truck: Motor vehicle with motive power, except a trailer, designed primarily for the transportation of property or special purpose equipment.

Bus: Motor vehicle with motive power, except a trailer, designed for carrying more than 10 persons.

School Bus: A bus that is sold, or introduced in interstate commerce, for purposes that include carrying students to and/or from school or related events, but does not include a bus designed and sold for operation as a common carrier in urban transportation.

Motorcycle: Motor vehicle with motive power, having a seat or saddle for use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground.

Trailer: Motor vehicle with or without motive power, designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by another motor vehicle.

Motor Vehicle Equipment: Individual vehicle components or systems whether installed on a new vehicle or provided as a replacement or accessory that are subject to a FMVSS.

Low-Speed Vehicle: 4-wheeled motor vehicle, other than a truck, with a maximum speed greater than 20 and not more than 25 miles per hour.