

FACT SHEET

Specialty Constructed Vehicle Titling Procedure

PURPOSE

This fact sheet explains the requirements for titling and registering specialty constructed vehicles.

DEFINITIONS

Specialty Constructed Vehicle - A vehicle not originally constructed under a distinctive name, make, model or type by a generally recognized manufacturer of vehicles.

Some examples of vehicle configurations which would require a specialty constructed vehicle title include, but are not limited to:

- Vehicles assembled from a kit
- Vehicles assembled from various vehicle makes/model years
- Dune buggies
- Glider kits
- Homemade trailers

A glider kit can take many forms depending on the needs of the customer. Often a basic glider kit is a new truck without an engine, transmission, or power train. Glider kits are fitted with aftermarket, remanufactured, or used parts to complete the vehicle. It is often difficult to spot the difference between a glider and a new truck.

PennDOT currently titles all vehicles not built by a recognized manufacturer of vehicles, such as vehicles built from a kit, as specialty constructed vehicles. The make of the completed vehicle is designated as "Specialty Constructed" with no model year assigned. Vehicles built from glider kits fall into this vehicle category since the completed vehicle is made from new and used parts of varying model years and is not a configuration certified by a recognized vehicle manufacturer as a new vehicle. PennDOT utilizes the VIN of the glider kit when establishing the title records for these specialty constructed vehicles in order to alleviate reported problems encountered by customers regarding warranties of glider manufacturers.

PennDOT has a responsibility to ensure that future purchasers of specialty constructed vehicles are aware of the history of the vehicles they are purchasing. Using a distinctive name, make or model could lead potential purchasers to believe that the entire vehicle is a newer model year and could imply a substantially higher vehicle resale value as well as imply that the warranty may extend to more parts of the vehicle than are covered.

PROCEDURE AND DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

- ❖ All specialty constructed vehicles must undergo an enhanced vehicle safety inspection to ensure the vehicle is in compliance with all equipment and inspection requirements (even if it would not normally be subject to a periodic safety inspection). This inspection must be performed at an enhanced vehicle safety inspection station. A list of these stations can be found at www.pa.gov/dmv. Click on the link for Business Partner Info, then Station Owners and Mechanics.
- ❖ Once the vehicle has successfully passed the enhanced inspection, the enhanced inspector or certified document reviewer will photograph the vehicle and examine the documentation



presented by the vehicle owner to support titling the vehicle. Required documentation includes, but is not limited to:

- ★ [Form MV-426B, "Application for Reconstructed, Specially Constructed, Collectible, Modified, Flood, Recovered Theft Vehicles and Street Rods,"](#) all applicable signatures. The most current form can be found on our website at www.pa.gov/dmv.
- ★ Proof of ownership in the form of:
 - Pennsylvania Certificate of Title or Salvage
 - Certificate of title or salvage issued by another state or jurisdiction
 - Manufacturer's Statement of Origin or Certificate of Origin (MSO/MCO)
 - Bill of sale
- ★ The following documents are not accepted by Pennsylvania as proof of ownership:
 - Form 907A issued by the state of New York
- ★ Any title, certificate of origin, statement of origin, or certificate of salvage that indicates the vehicle is to be used for parts only, is not suitable to be rebuilt or titled or is not designed, constructed, or intended for use on public roadways.
- ★ Form MV-1, "Application for Certificate of Title," if the applicant's name does not appear on the face of the certificate of title or salvage.
- ★ A detailed description of how the vehicle was configured and assembled.
- ★ Proof of insurance (except specially constructed trailers).
- ★ Unladen weight slip (unladen weight is the empty vehicle with a full tank of gas, and the driver in the driver's seat).
- ★ Door jamb label filled out by an end stage/second stage manufacturer certified by NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration); and/or
- ★ All receipts for parts used in the construction of the glider kit.

All applications for a specially constructed vehicle MUST be submitted to PennDOT for review and processing. Specially constructed vehicle applications cannot be processed by online business partners. Any application submitted for a specially constructed vehicle title may be delayed should it warrant further review by PennDOT and/or the Pennsylvania State Police.

NOTE: A model year is not assigned to specially constructed vehicles. The Pennsylvania Certificate of Title and registration credentials for specially constructed vehicles will not list a model year. The make of the vehicle will be designated as "Specially Constructed."

ODOMETER DISCLOSURE INFORMATION

If an odometer was serviced, repaired or replaced during the construction of the vehicle, the odometer reading must remain the same as before the service, repair or replacement. Where the odometer is incapable of registering the same mileage as before the service, repair or replacement, the odometer shall be adjusted to read zero and a notice in writing shall be attached to the vehicle (left door frame of vehicle or left front fork of a motorcycle) by the owner or his agent specifying the mileage prior to repair or replacement of the odometer and the date on which it was repaired or replaced.

The title shall reflect the true and known mileage on the title with a "0" as odometer status; 0 = actual mileage. In the event the true mileage cannot be determined, the title shall reflect 99999 as the mileage and "2" as the odometer status; 2 = NOT the actual mileage.

PENNSYLVANIA INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

After the vehicle is titled and registered, specially constructed vehicles (except trailers having a registered gross weight of 3,000 pounds or less) are subject to periodic safety inspections. Periodic inspections can be performed at any inspection station throughout Pennsylvania. A vehicle is only required to be inspected at an enhanced vehicle safety inspection station for initial titling.

Please Note: Authorized agents are under contract to PennDOT and may charge a market driven service (delivery) fee; these are in addition to any PennDOT statutory fees for temporary, or in some cases, permanent motor vehicle registration plates and cards or other related products and services offered by the agent. The agent's service (delivery) fees are market driven, and vary by agent. To compare service (delivery) fees, you are encouraged to contact the authorized agents in your area for the applicable service (delivery) fees charged.