

**TACA Conference June 2005
Round Rock, Texas
Questions/Responses**

POINT OF SALE STICKER PRINTING (POSSP)

1. Will counties that have the HP 8000 series printers still need to purchase the cartridges?

No. TxDOT will pay for all toner cartridges for state allocated printers.

2. May counties provide refurbished/recycled cartridges for the new printers of their subcontractors and dealers?

Yes.

3. Is TxDOT working with the vendor to address difficulties encountered with the removal of the sticker from the POSSP form? Does the department plan to implement changes wherein the vendor can write instructions on the back of the POSSP form or change the punch hole location?

The department worked with the vendor to resolve the problems encountered with the POSSP form and removal of the sticker from the form. Refer to RTB 66-05, 63-05, and 59-05.

4. Is TxDOT or the county responsible for acting as a point of contact for after-hours transactions for subcontractors if they have questions regarding equipment for POSSP transactions?

The point of contact for the subcontractors will always be the county tax assessor-collector's office. If necessary, the county may contact TxDOT (RTS Help Desk) during normal business hours or at times as pre-coordinated by the county with the Help Desk.

5. Is VTR going to put explanations in English and Spanish for affixing the validation sticker on the vehicle?

VTR is currently addressing this matter.

REGISTRATION

6. Does the Texas Department of Transportation issue golf cart plates?

Yes. Grayson County is currently the only county in Texas that qualifies to issue golf cart plates in compliance with Texas Transportation Code Section 504.510.

7. What is the procedure for vehicle registration for U. S. military personnel?

U. S. military personnel can register their vehicles in their county of residence or where they are stationed. The owner of the vehicle will be required to submit all applicable evidence of ownership and to complete Form VTR-272-B if the vehicle is located out of state. Military personnel who are stationed in Texas at the time of application for title and/or registration may apply with proof of their Texas duty station.

8. Will the \$1.00 Reg—DPS Fee expire, or has it been extended?

This fee will not expire. The fee is appropriated for use by DPS to reengineer their driver license system and by the Texas Department of Insurance, TxDOT, DPS, and Texas Department of Information Resources to develop and administer an insurance verification program.

9. Do vehicles that weigh more than one ton qualify for amateur radio plates?

No. The department may issue specially designed Mobile Amateur Radio license plates to passenger cars and light commercial vehicles having a manufacturer's rated carrying capacity of one ton or less.

10. Is there a plan to allow permits to be sold online for passenger vehicles?

No.

11. Is TxDOT responsible for monitoring the apportioned vehicles that have not paid sales tax or have had their apportioned plates for a year?

No; however, if a carrier closes their apportioned account within a year, the regional offices routinely provide information to the State Comptroller's Office. The tax offices may also collect sales tax when selling regular registration to a previous apportion registered vehicle.

12. Is the month sticker going to be eliminated for motorcycle plates and for trailer plates?

Yes. The combined month and year of expiration is now printed on the point of sale sticker.

13. Why is the 1% or 2.5% sales tax emission surcharge collected?

This tax is legislatively mandated. It was imposed during the 78th Legislative Session. Refer to RTB 64-03 and 77-03.

14. Will the color and size of the license plate sticker be changed by VTR so that they can be identified better by law enforcement officials?

VTR will consider at a later date in consultation with law enforcement officials.

15. What is the use of the Young Farmer's Fee?

This is a fee collected by the department and is used to fund the Young Farmer Loan Guarantee Program which is administered through the Texas Financial Agricultural Authority.

16. If a vehicle is apprehended in a county in which the owner does not reside, can the county in which they are apprehended collect the penalty?

Yes. Counties are required to collect the penalty. The Motor Vehicle Registration Manual provides: "If the apprehension occurs in a county other than the owner's county of residence, the tax assessor-collector shall retain his regular receipt commission and remit the balance of all monies collected to the department. Input the county residence number in the RTS apprehended event." The RTS application accommodates this requirement.

17. Can a vehicle be registered if the vehicle owner's name and the name of the insured person are not the same?

Yes, as long as the VIN matches the insurance cards on the vehicle being registered.

REGISTRATION AND TITLE SYSTEM

18. What is the date for the collegiate plate workaround?

Collegiate plates should be completed by August of 2005.

19. Will the state reconsider the lease agreement for subcontractors?

The state is not currently considering an amendment to the "fair share" allocation. Allocation criteria and equipment lease costs were established by department administration. The "fair share" criteria covers over 67% of all existing subcontractors. Any suggested amendments to this criteria should be submitted in writing to VTR.

20. Is there a 30 day grace period for subcontractors to do renewals?

RTS allows a subcontractor up to 30 days to process the renewal.

21. Can subcontractors process renewals with remarks in the system?

Yes. Subcontractors do not have access to the RTS mainframe.

22. When will RTS display the manufacturer buyback remark?

Programming is scheduled after Fall of 2006. The remark is currently carried forward using a workaround.

23. When will the Seasonal Agricultural plates be implemented? Also, when will the placards be implemented?

The seasonal agricultural workaround elimination project will be implemented in Fall of 2005. The disabled placards project, allowing for inventory controls, will be implemented in Summer of 2005.

24. Is there a year to date report available through RTS?

Yes. The RTS customer help desk can be contacted for assistance. This report can be ordered on a one-time basis or as a regular report.

25. Will TxDOT change the internet renewal screen to require a local or toll free telephone number of the insurance company?

This suggestion has been added to the enhancement list.

26. Can backup database reports be retrieved when the database is not working?

Yes. The RTS customer help desk may be contacted for the reports to be faxed.

SPECIALTY PLATES

27. Can a person still pay the specialty plate fee and not register the vehicle?

Yes.

28. When is the RTS Specialty Plate Project scheduled to be completed?

The program will be phased in. The estimated completion date is mid-2006.

29. How long is it taking for specialty and exempt plate applications to be processed?

Specialty plates are being processed by or before 5 days of receipt. Exempt plate applications are taking 6 to 7 days to process.

TITLE

30. Can a Texas resident in the military who purchases a vehicle in another country transfer the title in Texas if they are stationed in another state?

Yes. Military personnel who are Texas residents (persons who claim Texas as their legal residence) may register and title their vehicle in the county in which they reside. The applicant will be required to provide a Form 130-U, Form VTR-272-B, acceptable evidence of ownership, customs clearance documents, and proof of compliance with federal safety standards.

31. Why is there an increase in the number of rejections due to VIN corrections?

In May 2005, the VIN Error Detection Program was implemented which identifies all non-conforming VINs and generates a VIN Error Detection Report. These transactions are returned to the respective county for verification/correction. Refer to RTB 057-05.

32. What penalties can be imposed on an auto dealer for not transferring title?

The purchaser may be advised to file a complaint by contacting the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) at the following number: (800) 687-7846. The purchaser should also be advised ownership may be obtained through the Bonded Title process, Tax Assessor-Collector Hearing or Court Order.

33. What notification is required on owner-retained vehicles?

The insurance company is required to complete the Owner Retained Report (Form VTR-436) for submission to the department before the 31st day after the date of the payment of claim. The law does not require notification to the owner; however, VTR has requested that insurance companies advise their customers of the requirements. In addition, upon receipt of the Owner Retained Report, the department will mark the appropriate motor vehicle record and notify the recorded owner and lienholder of record of the requirement to apply for a Salvage of Nonrepairable Vehicle Title. An Application for a Texas Salvage or Nonrepairable Certificate of Title (Form VTR-441) is provided for the owner's completion and return.

34. What is a Form 97?

This is a United States Government Certificate to Obtain Title to a Vehicle, used as the ownership document when a vehicle has been purchased from the U. S. government.

35. How will HB 988 affect counties?

HB 988, enacted by the 79th Legislature, requires the dealer to provide the customer the option to transfer title in the purchaser's home county. Counties may see an increase in mail-in title processing. An RTB detailing this process is forthcoming.

36. Should MD or CPA be part of the name on the vehicle title?

Owner name should be entered into RTS exactly as shown in Box 14 on the Form 130-U.

37. Can a bill of sale be used on vehicles 10 years or older?

All standard Texas title transfers require the properly assigned ownership document, Form 130-U and proof of financial responsibility. If the vehicle ownership document is from a non-title state, a bill of sale is acceptable and a Form VI-30 is also required. Refer to RTB 014-01.

MISCELLANEOUS

38. What value would be used in the RTS system—loan, retail, or trade-in value? Will mileage be taken into consideration?

The Standard Presumptive Value legislation did not pass during the 79th Regular Legislative Session, but has been reintroduced during the special session. The legislature has proposed the average retail value. More information will be provided if this legislation passes.

39. What agency will be responsible for licensing appraisers if standard presumptive value is enacted?

Legislation currently under consideration allows appraisals from an adjuster licensed under the Insurance Code or a licensed motor vehicle dealer.

40. Will the \$1.00 voluntary organ donor fee be used to fund organ donor programs, and will there be a media campaign for this?

Yes. The \$1.00 voluntary organ donor fee is established under Transportation Code 502.1745. The Organ Donor Council is responsible for the media campaign.

41. How long must the county keep checks that have been issued for a refund but have not been cashed?

The county auditor should make this decision.