



## Information Bulletin IB-127C

# Marking of Vehicle Identification Numbers on Caravans and Light Trailers

### Summary

Caravans and light trailers must have their individual vehicle identification number (VIN) clearly stamped, embossed, or otherwise permanently marked on a substantial part of the frame or chassis.

### Background

The amended policy will make it easier to identify trailers and caravans when the trailer's vehicle or compliance plate has deteriorated to an extent that it is illegible, been removed, or has fallen off. The policy will also reduce the practice of using legitimate trailer compliance plates to license stolen vehicles and will further reduce other fraudulent practices such as the swapping of trailer compliance plates from compliant vehicles onto non-compliant vehicles.

### Application

This policy applies from 1 November 2011 for all caravans and light trailers licensed in WA for the first time and those being relicensed after that date.

### Requirements

The VIN must be permanently marked onto a substantial part of the frame or chassis and must be:

- clearly legible by a person standing near the vehicle; and
- uniformly marked in characters at least 7 mm in height.

A valid trailer plate showing the VIN and other information required by Vehicle Standards Bulletin (VSB) 1 (National Code of Practice – Building Small Trailers) is required.

### How this should be done

- The characters must be stamped, embossed, impressed, engraved, welded or etched into the frame or chassis.
- Welded or embossed characters will need to be much larger than 7 mm to be clearly legible.
- Where possible, the VIN should be located on the top face of the drawbar.
  - Where this is not possible, it should be located where it can easily be read and not be prone to damage or obliteration over time.

### An acceptable alternative

An alternative to marking the VIN directly onto the frame or chassis is to emboss or engrave a plate, at least 5 mm thick, which must be fully welded around its perimeter onto a substantial part of the frame or chassis and in a location which meets the previous requirements.

### Current legislation

*The Road Traffic (Vehicles) Regulations 2014* require a vehicle to have its VIN clearly stamped, embossed or otherwise permanently marked on a substantial part of its frame or chassis.

### Related documents and links

- Vehicle Standards Bulletins are available on the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development website - [www.infrastructure.gov.au](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au)
- *Road Traffic (Vehicles) Regulations 2014* can be accessed on the Western Australian Legislation website - [www.legislation.wa.gov.au](http://www.legislation.wa.gov.au)