

Removal of Operator Name and simplification of Specification Tables on PBS Vehicle Approvals (VA)

From **14 November 2022**, the following changes to the PBS Vehicle Approval (VA) document are coming into effect:

1. The Operator Name, currently listed on the front page of the VA, will be removed; and
2. The Specification (Spec) Table, containing vehicle specifications, such as engine and suspensions, currently located immediately after the drawings section on the VA will be simplified and moved to the beginning of the VA document.

Why the Vehicle Approval is changing

The changes are being implemented to improve the structure and usability of the VA document, as well as remove the transfer requirement when PBS vehicles are sold from one operator to another.

Simplification of Spec Tables will also simplify the VA by reducing the number of pages in the document.

The changes will offer time savings when the VA is being processed by the NHVR resulting in a positive impact on the VA approval turnaround times.

Removal of Operator Name

Removing the Operator Name means that the VA will become an authorisation to the vehicles listed on the VA regardless of who owns or operates them.

It will no longer be necessary to transfer the into the new company's name when vehicles are sold from one operator to another. The new operator can start using the vehicles right away and have no delays in submitting access permit applications.

Also, subcontractors will be able to use the existing VA without having to transfer the VA into their name.

Note: The VA will still contain the applicant's details (PBS Design Approval holder), but not the Operator Name.

Operators will be able to request the Operator Name to be removed from their existing VA by filling out a 'Remove Operator Name request form' - the form will be made available in due course.

The 'VA Transfer form' will be amended to allow for a request to be made to transfer VIN's from an existing multi-combination VA onto a separate VA. For example, an existing VA contains 5 truck and dog combinations, and one of them was sold to a different operator – the new operator can use the updated 'VA Transfer form' to transfer that combination onto a separate VA. The new VA will also be issued without the Operator Name.

Specification Table simplification

The Specification Table contains vehicle specifications such as engine and suspensions and is listed immediately after the drawings section on the VA. These tables will be simplified and moved to the beginning of the VA document.

The Specification Tables will be simplified to only contain key vehicle information such as VIN, vehicle make and model, and GCM/ATM rating. It will also be combined with the Combination Matrix, so that VIN's are only listed once in the VA document.

To accommodate for the change, the 'Certifier's Certificate' will be amended to reflect the new simplified Spec Table format.

Change impact

These changes will only apply to new vehicle applications or applications to modify existing VA's submitted after the implementation date.

All existing VA's are unaffected. Access permits also remain unaffected by these changes.

Implementation

Starting from **14 November**, all VA's will be issued without an Operator Name.

For Spec Table simplification, there will be a transition period that will allow certifications to be submitted using the old and new 'Certifier's Certificate' – this is to allow time for the Certifier's to adjust their processes and gain an understanding of the new 'Certifier's Certificate'

format. The transition period is from **14 November** until **12 December**.

During this transition period, if an application is submitted using an old 'Certifier's Certificate,' the VA will be issued as per previous Spec Table format.

After **12 December**, all VA applications – new or modification (add, remove or modify) must be submitted using the new 'Certifier's Certificate.'

For more information:

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