

Newsletter

February 2009



Vehicle & Operator Services Agency



In this, the second IVA Newsletter, we will remind you of the all important cut off dates surrounding the processing of applications for SVA inspections prior to the commencement of Individual Vehicle Approval on the 29th April 2009. There is also some brief news on Test Laboratories and where you will be able to obtain an IVA application form (for M1 passenger cars) as well as information on the draft IVA manuals and the draft version of the IVA information guide.

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Last Applications for Single Vehicle Approval (SVA) - more information

In our November 2008 Newsletter, we advised you of the arrangements being put in place to make the transition from SVA to IVA.

Our aim during the transition is to provide a continuous inspection service.

Applications for passenger car SVA will not be accepted after the **28th February 2009**. All applications submitted before this date must be accompanied by the necessary documentation to support the application in the usual way.

Applications that are not supported by the required documentation may be returned to the applicant who will then need to re-apply for an IVA inspection. Every effort will however be made to support applicants to provide documentation. Applications previously submitted and currently waiting additional evidence of compliance at our Swansea office will have until the 28th February 2009 to provide the necessary information.

From the **1st March 2009** onwards, applications held that remain incomplete and applications received after this deadline, will be refunded in full and a request for approval will only be considered under the IVA scheme.

Passenger car applications received by the 28th February 2009 will be allocated an appointment before the **29th April 2009**. Applicants must be prepared to present their vehicles at the appointed time. In addition, new build vehicles will be required to be presented in a complete condition and be capable of being driven under their own power, such that all areas of the inspection can be conducted. Failure to meet the above conditions will result in a refusal to inspect the vehicle. If the application deadline has passed, a fresh application will need to be submitted under the IVA scheme.

REMEMBER - all vehicles inspected by the 28th April 2009 will, where necessary, have 6 months to be re-presented for an inspection and any certificates issued will only be valid until the 31st October 2009 for registration purposes.

Draft IVA Information Guide Online

As development of the scheme continues, we have completed the first draft of an information Guide. This is available on the Transport Office website:

www.transportoffice.gov.uk

(From the Home page - Vehicle Dealerships and Importers ► ISO Certification and Type Approval ► European Community Whole Vehicle Type Approval).

The Guide includes general information about the scheme as well as which vehicles are subject to approval and their implementation dates for IVA.

Vehicles are sub-divided into categories (light vehicles, goods vehicles, buses and trailers) and an indication given of the EC Directive items subject to approval for each category and how compliance can be demonstrated.

To provide a document that meets the needs of our customers, we have visited, interviewed and taken feedback

from various representatives of the Trade Associations. All comments will be considered for incorporation into the final version of the Guide to be published in the near future. Our thanks go to all who gave their time to assist in the future development of the publication.

Inspection Manuals Online

If you would like information on the Technical Standards that will be applicable to any of the various vehicle categories, this is available in the latest versions of the draft IVA Inspection manuals on www.transportoffice.gov.uk.

Test Laboratories - Authorisation and Accreditation

Where a vehicle requires approval and evidence of Directive compliance is not available (in respect of emissions for example), it may be necessary to submit the vehicle to a Test Laboratory for testing to the EC Directive requirements. Unlike SVA, authorised Test Laboratories are required to meet ISO 17025

(International Organisation for Standardisation) in order to obtain authorisation as a **"Technical Service"**.

Laboratories which have not been recognised by an approval authority as meeting the requirements of ISO 17025 may be able to conduct tests, provided the tests are witnessed by an approval authority representative, VCA in the United Kingdom. This standard is a 'Quality Management System' tool suited to organisations whose core business is testing. ISO 17025 specifically focuses on the general requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories.

Information submitted to VOSA in respect of an application to demonstrate Directive compliance will only be considered if it is provided by an authorised "Technical Service" or produced as a result of a witnessed test. To date, several laboratories are working to obtain authorisation. We will aim to inform you of the laboratories that provide this service in due course.

Some Frequently Asked Questions...

What is Individual Vehicle Approval (IVA)?

In October 2007, the current European Type Approval scheme for passenger cars known as European Community Whole Vehicle Type Approval (ECWVTA) was amended by new European legislation called the Recast Framework Directive

2007/46/EC. Due to this legislation, European Type Approval will now extend to cover other vehicle groups for the first time. Individual Vehicle Approval (IVA) is a UK National approval scheme for passenger cars, buses, coaches, light and heavy goods vehicles, trailers and some special purpose vehicles such as motor

caravans and hearses. Similarly to SVA, IVA is a pre-registration inspection for vehicles imported, assembled or manufactured in very small numbers or as individual vehicles.

When will my vehicle need an IVA inspection?

When your vehicle will need a

mandatory IVA inspection will depend on what category* of vehicle it falls into. The implementation dates for ECWVTA/IVA for the different vehicle categories are as follows:

Note : For further information regarding **vehicle categories and definitions, please refer to the IVA Information Guide on www.transportoffice.gov.uk. This publication is still in draft format.*

Passenger Cars - M1 (no more than 8 passenger seats in addition to the driver's)

Passenger Cars - M1

29th April 2009*

Special Purpose Passenger - M1

29th April 2012*

**Unless your vehicle already has an approval certificate, is a 'Special Purpose' vehicle or is more than 10 years old at the time of application.*

Light Goods Vehicles - N1 (no more than 3500kgs)

Light Goods vehicles - N1

29th October 2011*

Special Purpose Light Goods - N1

29th October 2014*

** Unless your vehicle already has an approval certificate, is a 'Special Purpose' vehicle or is more than 10 years old at the time of application.*

Buses & Coaches - M2 & M3 (more than 8 passenger seats in addition to the driver's)

Incomplete & Complete - M2 & M3

29th October 2010*

Completed - M2 & M3

29th October 2011*

Special Purpose - M2 & M3

29th October 2014*

** Unless your vehicle was built more than 3 months before the implementation dates above*

Heavy Goods Vehicles - N2 & N3 (more than 3500kgs)

Incomplete & Complete - N2 & N3

29th October 2012*

Completed - N2 & N3

29th October 2014*

Special Purpose - N2 & N3

29th October 2014*

** Unless the vehicle is more than 25 years old at the time of application*

Light & Heavy Trailers - O1, O2, O3 & O4

Incomplete & Complete - O1 - O4

29th October 2012*

Completed - O1 - O4

29th October 2013*

Special Purpose Trailers

29th October 2014*

** Unless the vehicle was built more than 3 months before the implementation dates above*

How do I obtain an IVA application form?

In the very near future, application forms for inspections for M1 passenger cars will be available to download from our website - www.vosa.gov.uk. If you do not have internet access, you can telephone our Contact Centre on the number below and request one to be sent to you in the post or by fax. Staff at VOSA test stations will also be able to supply forms on request.

Contact Centre Number - 0300 123 9000

How much will the IVA inspection cost?

Currently, the fees have not yet been finalised by the Department for Transport. Proposed IVA fees were set out in the DfT's public consultation document dated 2nd June 2008. As soon as they have been decided, they will be available on VOSA's website - www.vosa.gov.uk.

What is 'Optional' IVA?

As this newsletter confirms, IVA is mandatory for M1 passenger cars initially from 29th April 2009. However, 'optional' statutory IVA inspections will also be available from this date for larger vehicles such as buses, coaches, medium to heavy sized goods vehicles and trailers. It will **not** however apply to N1 light goods such as vans, light trucks, pick ups etc as the SVA scheme will still be available for these vehicles up until the **29th October 2011** (or up until the **29th October 2014** for N1 Special Purpose vehicles).

Will motorbikes be affected by the introduction of IVA?

No, motorbikes are not included and therefore will not be affected by the IVA scheme.

Will motor caravans be included in the scheme?

Motor caravans (M1 Special Purpose vehicles) will continue to use the SVA scheme for 'optional' statutory inspections as is currently in place up until **29th April 2012**, when IVA will then become mandatory for these vehicles.

Will Model Reports still be used when the IVA scheme is introduced?

Yes, the Model Report system will be in place for IVA. However the Model Report numbering may change as reports will reflect the revised criteria applicable under the IVA scheme.

What will the differences be between SVA and IVA for a kit car?

You will need to refer to the IVA inspection manual for M1 passenger cars which is currently available in draft format on the Transport Office website. The manual shows the list of inspection requirements for **Basic*** and **Normal*** IVA for M1 passenger vehicles.

**Basic IVA equates to 'Standard' SVA*

**Normal IVA equates to 'ESVA' (Enhanced SVA or class 'R').*

For further information regarding European Community Whole Vehicle Type Approval (ECWVTA) and the Individual Vehicle Approval (IVA) scheme please visit the following websites :

Department for Transport:
www.dft.gov.uk/typeapproval

VOSA (Individual Vehicle Approval services):
www.transportoffice.gov.uk
(Click on the 'Vehicle Dealerships and Importers' menu option)

E-mail us at:
ivaenquiries@vosa.gov.uk



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