



# Driver and Vehicle Services Update Bulletin

Josh Shapiro, Governor

Mike Carroll, Secretary

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## Imported Vehicles with a Vehicle Identification Number that Begins with the Letter "L" (LVIN)

This is a follow-up to the previous notifications sent regarding title applications for any two or three-wheeled motorcycle, motor-driven cycle, motor scooter or motorized pedal cycle (Moped) with a vehicle identification number (VIN) that begins with the letter "L." These title applications are to be forwarded to the Special Services Unit of PennDOT for examination to determine if a title may be issued. Please inform affected customers that a delay in processing may occur due to this examination process.

Affected applications should be forwarded to one of the following addresses:

Via Mail:

Vehicle Inspection Division  
Special Services Unit  
ATTN: Special Examination  
P.O. Box 69007  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-9007

Via Messenger or Courier:

Vehicle Inspection Division  
Special Services Unit  
ATTN: Special Examination  
1101 South Front Street, 3rd Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17104

This examination process became necessary due to discrepancies discovered between the Manufacturers Certificate of Origin (MCO) and the approved database of manufactures maintained by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). NHTSA identifies authorized vehicle manufacturers and lists VIN decoding information submitted by those manufacturers importing vehicles into the United States for sale. PennDOT discovered that many manufacturers listed on the MCO are not recognized by NHTSA and VIN decoding information was either incorrect or non-existent. This raised an important consumer protection issue since it would be very difficult to track the real manufacturer if a safety recall is necessary or a liability issue

Agents are required to ensure all their employees receive PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services update bulletins. This bulletin may be downloaded by visiting the Driver and Vehicle Services website at

[www.pa.gov/dmv](http://www.pa.gov/dmv).

arises for the customer. This could have a negative financial impact on customers, therefore, PennDOT made the decision to verify the documentation before these vehicles are permitted on the road.

Agents should not issue on-road title or on-road registration for these types of vehicles. Agents should also be checking the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration's (NHTSA) VIN decode tool to validate if the vehicle is for on-road use. The vehicle may only receive an on-road title if the NHTSA VIN decode tool identifies it as meeting on-road vehicle specifications. NHTSA provides a free VIN decoder at [www.vpic.nhtsa.dot.gov/decoder](http://www.vpic.nhtsa.dot.gov/decoder)

This direction also applies to the newer Ashomeli Electric Cargo Tricycle Truck being sold on Amazon, Walmart, and other online marketers. These vehicles are capable of reaching speeds well over 25 MPH and are not up to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS). These vehicles are not eligible for title or registration.