



VEHICLE IMPORTATION GUIDELINES
(Vehicles Manufactured for Sale in a Country
Other than Canada)
December 5, 2008

The following provides information concerning the importation of a passenger car, truck, trailer, motorcycle, bus, or multi-purpose passenger vehicle (MPV) that was not originally manufactured to comply with U.S. or Canadian safety standards. Importers of motor vehicles must file an HS-7 Declaration form (available at ports of entry or at <http://www.nhtsa.gov/cars/rules/import>) at the time a vehicle is imported to identify the basis for the vehicle's entry into the United States. As a general rule, a motor vehicle less than 25 years old must comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards (FMVSS) to be imported on a permanent basis. Vehicles (other than motorcycles) manufactured to comply with the FMVSS will have a certification label affixed by the original manufacturer in the area of the driver-side door. Motorcycles will have the label close to the intersection of the steering post and the handlebars. To make importation easier, when purchasing abroad a vehicle certified to the U.S. standards, a buyer should have the seller verify in the sales contract that the label is attached and present this document at the time of importation.

A vehicle without a certification label cannot be imported as a conforming vehicle. In this case, the importer must contract with a Registered Importer (RI) to modify the vehicle and post a DOT Conformance Bond in an amount equivalent to one and a half times the vehicle's dutiable value. This bond is in addition to the normal Customs entry bond. Copies of the DOT Conformance Bond and the contract with an RI must be attached to the HS-7 form.

Under the contract, the RI will modify the vehicle and certify that it conforms to all applicable FMVSS. Before an RI can modify a vehicle, NHTSA must have determined that the vehicle is eligible for importation based on its capability of being modified to conform to all applicable FMVSS. If no determination has been made, the RI must petition NHTSA to determine whether the vehicle is eligible for importation. If the petitioned vehicle is not similar to one sold in the U.S., this process can become very complex and costly. A list of vehicles that have been determined eligible for importation can be found on NHTSA's web site at <http://www.nhtsa.gov/cars/rules/import>.

Since the cost of modifying a nonconforming vehicle, or the time required to bring it into conformance, may affect the decision to purchase a vehicle abroad, we strongly recommend discussing these matters with an RI before buying and shipping a vehicle to the U.S.

For federal regulations concerning vehicle emissions, contact the Environmental Protection Agency, Certification and Compliance Division – Imports Program, 2000 Traverwood, Ann Arbor, MI 48105, (734) 214-4100, or visit the EPA website at <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/imports/>. Information concerning duty or other Customs matters can be obtained from U.S. Customs and Border Protection by calling that agency at 877-CBP-5511 or visit the Customs and Border Protection website at www.cbp.gov.

For information regarding titling, registration, or operation of a properly imported vehicle in a specific State, we advise you to contact the Department of Motor Vehicles or other appropriate agency in that State.

RIs who conform vehicles manufactured for sale in countries other than Canada are listed below.

An RI is an independent business and may be selective in terms of the work it performs. This agency does not endorse or recommend any of the listed RIs, nor does it represent or guarantee your satisfaction with any work or service these RIs perform.

**REGISTERED IMPORTERS WHO CONFORM VEHICLES
MANUFACTURED FOR SALE IN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN
CANADA**

as of December 5, 2008

Registered Importer Address	Phone Fax
MESA AUTO WHOLESALERS 1903 WEST CANARY WAY, CHANDLER, AZ 85248 tim@smartcarauto-az.com , tim@bigfourtrucks.com	602-318-4211 480-821-7766
AMERICAN AUTO DREAM 1760 MONROVIA AVE SUITE C-12, COSTA MESA, CA 92627 dot@americanautodream.com	949-515-8056 949-515-8035
AUTO BOUTIQUE, LTD. 660 BAKER ST SUITE 405-V, COSTA MESA, CA 92626	714-668-0235 714-844-4378
G & K AUTOMOTIVE * 2530 SOUTH BIRCH ST, SANTA ANA, CA 92707 george@gnkauto.com	714-545-9503 714-545-7667
AUTOMOBILE CONCEPTS * 13329 NE 17 TH AVE, NORTH MIAMI, FL 33181 info@ri-ici.com	305-893-1950 305-893-9097
RED TOP AUTO SALES, INC. 1934 B DANA DRIVE, FORT MYERS, FL 33907	239-334-4468 239-461-0200
EXPORT AUTO SALES 454 CHICOPEE ST, CHICOPEE, MA 01013 info@exportautosales.com	413-536-2373 413-538-7008
J.K. TECHNOLOGIES * 3500 SWEET AIR ST, BALTIMORE, MD 21211 convert2us@aol.com	410-366-6332 410-366-7655
US SPECS * 121 NORTHWAY DRIVE, HAVRE DE GRACE, MD 21078 usspecs@aol.com	443-502-2331 443-502-2331
AUTO ENTERPRISES 33495 WOODWARD AVE., BIRMINGHAM, MI 48009 phil@auto-enterprises.com	248-589-1200 248-723-6699
U.S. DRIVE RIGHT P.O. BOX 429, SPRING ARBOR, MI 49283	888-632-5936 517-750-3392
AUTOSPORT DESIGN	631-425-1555

203 WEST HILLS RD, HUNTINGTON STATION, NY 11746 nuglut1@aol.com	631-425-6185
RHD VEHICLES 2056 NW ALOCLEK DRIVE, SUITE 305, HILLSBORO, OR 97124	503-533-5972 503-533-5472
WALLACE ENVIRONMENTAL TEST LAB * 2140 WIRTCREST LA, HOUSTON, TX 77055 www.wallacelab.com sales@wallacelab.com	713-956-7705 713-956-0104
WESTERN CASCADE 12065 44 TH PL SOUTH, TUKWILA, WA 98178 http://www.westerncascade.com karenb@westerncascade.com	206-767-2151 206-767-2157
MILWAUKEE MOTORCYCLE IMPORTS (MOTORCYCLES AND SCOOTERS ONLY) 3144 SOUTH 47TH ST, MILWAUKEE, WI 53219 milwaukeeimports@wi.rr.com	414-321-9607 414-321-9608

* Registered with DOT and EPA (<http://www.epa.gov/otaq/imports/icilist.pdf>)