



Anti-Theft Immobilizing Systems Mandatory for New Cars in Canada

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On September 6, 2007, the Honorable Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure, and Communities announced a regulation that requires all new cars, vans, light trucks and SUVs to be equipped with electronic anti-theft immobilizing systems. This amendment to the [Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations](#) applies to all vehicles manufactured after September 1, 2007.

“This measure will benefit all Canadians by further reducing vehicle theft, save lives, and make our cities and communities safer,” said Minister Cannon. Immobilizers make it difficult for vehicle engines to start without the proper disabling device. To start the vehicle, the appropriate combination code or electronic signal from the vehicle key must be sent to the control unit.

Over the last few years, vehicle manufacturers have installed anti-theft immobilization devices on new vehicles. These devices prevent unauthorized individuals from starting and driving a vehicle. About 80 per cent of all new vehicles sold in Canada are already equipped with the device, however, the remaining are not. The new regulation means that eventually all vehicles on the road in Canada will be equipped with anti-theft devices

CS Toronto was told that while Transport Canada has mandated anti-theft immobilizing systems for light vehicles made after September 1, 2007, it is up to the provinces to determine if older vehicles will need to be retrofitted to comply with the new regulation.

While the provincial and territorial governments have jurisdiction for after-market additions to motor vehicles, Transport Canada develops standards and regulations for new vehicles manufactured or imported for use in Canada.

Transport Canada is online at www.tc.gc.ca.

Implications for U.S. Companies

U.S. manufacturers of anti-theft immobilizing systems stand to benefit from these new regulations if it is determined that older vehicles need to be retrofitted to meet the Motor Vehicle Safety Standards. Consumer/corporate demand for these devices will also drive the market and provide export opportunities for U.S. companies.

For information and assistance on this report, please contact Madellon C. Lopes, Sr. Commercial Specialist in Toronto at: (416) 595-5412, ext. 227; fax (416) 595-5419 or e-mail Madellon.Lopes@mail.doc.gov.

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