

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Northern Regional Office
Mobile Source Operations Section

OPERATIONAL ORDER	NUMBER 10	EFFECTIVE DATE: January 18, 1993 Revised: April 30, 2008
SUBJECT KIT-CAR AND REPLICATOR MOTOR VEHICLES	ORIGINATING UNIT MOBILE SOURCE OPERATIONS SECTION	

I. Kit-Car Procedures

For the purposes of Air Check Virginia, “Kit-Car” vehicles are defined as vehicles assembled by other than a licensed manufacturer, *and* do not replicate a production vehicle. Kit-car procedures refer only to those vehicles that are *not* replicas of a production vehicle. If the kit-car engine’s year of manufacture indicates that it is subject to the Air Check Virginia I&M Program, the vehicle may be inspected at an emissions inspection station. The year of the engine shall be presumed to be as stated by the vehicle owner. If the inspector determines by a physical inspection of the vehicle engine that the year of the engine is other than stated by the owner, the vehicle shall be inspected according to the year of the engine as determined by the inspector. The inspector shall be advised to select the appropriate designation for “kit-car” when prompted by the certified emissions analyzer system to allow the proper emissions standards and test procedure (ASM or TSI) to be selected. The emissions standards and tailpipe emissions test procedures for these vehicles will be in accordance with the year of manufacture of the engine.

Emissions inspectors may refer kit-car questions to a Vehicle Emissions Compliance Officer (VECO) for resolution. The VECO will make a determination as to whether the inspection can be handled at the emissions inspection station, or if the matter will be handled as a referee inspection. If there are any complaints or disputes concerning these procedures, the VECO will request the citizen to respond to the referee facility and/or meet with the vehicle owner for clarification.

If the vehicle owner has been notified through the registration process that an emissions inspection is required and a physical inspection of the vehicle engine determines that the vehicle is not subject to the I/M Program (model/engine year exemption or otherwise), an appointment shall be made with the citizen to perform a referee inspection. If the VECO confirms the exempt status, a letter of exemption will be provided to the citizen to complete the registration process. (See Attachment)

II. Replica Vehicle Procedures

A “replica” motor vehicle is one that is manufactured to replicate, or look like, a production vehicle but is made from a kit and/or parts from various sources but is not the actual production vehicle. Replica motor vehicles are registered/titled as the year and make/model of the vehicle that they replicate. Such vehicles shall meet such safety and emissions requirements as established for the model year of which the vehicle is a replica. Therefore, emissions inspection requirements, including whether an emissions inspection is required or not, shall be determined by the registered model year, make, vehicle class, etc. If such vehicle is presented for inspection and does not appear to be properly registered based on the above, the VECO may observe the vehicle to assist in a determination. If it appears to be improperly registered, the owner shall be referred to the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles for further registration/titling assistance.