

MOTOR VEHICLE NEWSLETTER

June 2023

Iowa DOT Central Programs Bureau

Monthly updates on vehicle program, policy, and process issues.

Procedure

Do Hydrovacs No Longer SME; Required to be Titled and Registered

Effective July 1, 2023, legislation allows hydroexcavation equipment, known as hydrovac trucks, to travel on non-interstate highways without needing to meet the size, weight, and load restrictions in Iowa Code chapter 321 or the permit requirements of Iowa Code chapter 321E under certain conditions. Hydrovacs are removed from the list of special mobile equipment (SME). Hydrovacs are subject to title and registration as a truck, either county registered or interstate apportioned depending on the usage. Hydrovacs are also a very rare vehicle type; based on industry contact, there are probably fewer than 25 currently in use in the state.

Based on the legislative implementation date of July 1, hydrovac owners will have a 30-day period to title and register the vehicle before incurring title and registration penalties. Since July 1 is a Saturday, the actual last date without penalty would therefore be August 2. Fee for new registration will only apply to hydrovacs purchased on or after July 1, 2023. There will not be any retroactive collection.

Please reference [IM 23-07](#) for more details.

Decedent Vehicle Transfers with Actual Miles:

Effective July 1, 2023, legislation allows for heirs using the affidavit process in Iowa Code 321.47 to transfer the vehicle into the heir's name and complete an odometer disclosure statement as the deceased person's agent. Vehicles transferred properly using DOT forms 411083 and 411088 with odometer disclosure may result in heir's title reflecting "actual" miles. Updated forms, 411083 *Certification of Death Testate for Vehicle Transfer* and 411088 *Certification of Death Intestate for Vehicle Transfer*, will include the odometer statement and will be available on the DOT website on July 1. Old versions of these forms or other heir affidavits are allowed to transfer the vehicle, but will result in "not actual" miles.

In certain situations, heirs using the affidavit process in Iowa Code 321.47 to transfer the vehicle from July 1, 2022, thru June 30, 2023, which resulted in "not actual" miles, may apply to the county for a new title reflecting "actual" miles. This "retroactive titling" will impact minimal counties. Instructions for this retroactive titling will be posted to the county treasurer's manual page on the DOT website and we will send a separate notice on this issue to all counties around June 28.

Please reference [IM 23-18](#) for more details.

Tips, Tricks & Reminders

GVWR Discretionary Edit (DE)

The recent code move in ARTS that fires a warning for gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) to be entered has brought up a few questions. It is important for counties to enter this information as it affects odometer disclosure, damage disclosure, salvage title issuance, DL requirements, and motor carrier safety regulations. It is also worth mentioning that empty weight should be collected as well. If it's not collected and added, a truck or truck/tractor is able to be registered at 3 tons and customers can receive citations or weight convictions which may result in hefty fines.

A couple of ways to find the empty weight or GVWR, if presented with an out of state title or an Iowa title that doesn't have it:

1. Go into ARTS, go to Vehicle Report or VRT > Manage Vehicle, enter the partial VIN of the vehicle (omit at least the last six), uncheck the Exact Match box, and Search. Most often there will be other similar vehicles and you can click on the VINs to find empty weight and/or GVWR.
2. Utilize the NHTSA VIN Decoder. Link <https://vpic.nhtsa.dot.gov/decoder/>
3. Have the customer take a picture of their VIN plate to show the GVWR.

ELT

Our ELT team has provided the following as a reference to help counties know which customer record to use, specifically for JP Morgan Chase Bank

Address Ty	Lien Holder Name	Address	City	Sti	Zip	ARTS	FEIN	ELT
SI	JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA (Lease Only)	PO BOX 901098	FORT WORTH	TX	76101	4253384	134994650	PAPER TITLE
SI	JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA (Retail Only)	700 KANSAS LN LA4 4041	MONROE	LA	71203	4035260	134994650	13499465000
SI	JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA (Commerical Only)	PO BOX 6026	CHICAGO	IL	60680	6639151	134994650	13499465001

ERT Errors & Workarounds

1. ARTS will crash when clicking on Open TR when the trade Plate Num is empty (example is highlighted below). The county will need to deny the ERT deal, leave comments to the dealer advising the dealer to resubmit the deal without the trade vehicle/plate. Once the deal has been resubmitted, the county will have to add the credit vehicle information to the deal manually. The dealer will need to add comments to the ERT deal, to remind the county to add the credit vehicle to the transaction.

The screenshot shows a transaction record in the ARTS system. The record ID is 144158, with a trade vehicle VIN of JA4AT3A... and a trade plate number of 11919970. The trade vehicle's value is 1068.75, and the trade date is 6/14/2023. The transaction is currently in a 'Deny' state. Below the record, there is a table with tabs for 'Vehicle', 'Vested Parties', 'Credit Vehicles', 'Dealer Assignments', and 'Documents'. The 'Credit Vehicles' tab is active, showing a table with columns for Vehicle #, VIN, Plate Num, Seller Notify Date, Reg Disposition Type, and Plat Disposition Type. The VIN and Plate Num fields are redacted with black boxes. The Seller Notify Date is 5/11/2023, the Reg Disposition Type is 'Traded', and the Plat Disposition Type is 'Transfer'.

- IT has located one of the causes in the ERT commit error situation (when ERT deals get stuck in finalize). The county will need to check the Priority column, under the Relate Customer tab to make sure the Priority field doesn't contain duplicate numbers (example highlighted below). If the Priority sequence is duplicated and doesn't go in succession, then the county will need to delete all owners and readd customers. This should allow the county to proceed through the transaction without getting stuck in finalize.

VIN [REDACTED] Location Boone - Primary

Vehicle 2023 Toyota Highlander Limited Veh Type Multi-purpose Set <New Set>

Application Vehicle Status Fee Detail **Relate Customers** Mailing Documents Exceptions

Relationship

Owner (Max: 3)

Buttons	Pri... /	Customer ID	ID Type	Legal Name	Title Print Name	Residency Address	Date of Birth
X ^ v	2	[REDACTED]	Drivers License	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
X ^ v	2	[REDACTED]	Drivers License	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Security Interest (Max: 0)

Topics From Other Jurisdictions

SPOA Not on Secure Paper

We recommend not to accept Secure POA's that aren't on secure paper. Any customer can print them off from their Dept. Of Revenue (DOR) site, so they're not truly secure. Alabama DOR posted a form on their website during COVID to make things easier for customers. However, Alabama has since updated guidance and now has a proper secure form for their SPOAs that their dealers are recommended to use.

Inventory, Printer & Plates

Inventory Check

Counties should check their Receive Orders under the Inventory tab for any backorders. These orders need to be cleared. If the order does not need to be brought into inventory, please reach out to Rhonda.Fowler@iowadot.us for assistance with clearing these orders and for any questions you might have about your backorders in inventory