

Changes from 31 January 2011

All NSW vehicles recorded on the Written-off Vehicle Register (WOVR) on or after 31 January 2011 will be classified as statutory (non-repairable) write-offs.

Vehicles classified as statutory write-offs will not be able to be registered in Australia. They will only be able to be used for parts or scrap metal.

The laws will apply to NSW light vehicles including trailers, caravans and motor bikes. A light vehicle is a registrable vehicle 4.5 tonnes or less gross vehicle mass (GVM).

Vehicles recorded as a repairable write-off before 31 January 2011 will continue to be so classified on the WOVR.

Why are the laws being changed?

The changes are being made to improve consumer protection and vehicle safety, and reduce vehicle theft and re-birthing, where stolen parts are used to illegally rebuild written-off vehicles.

For further information please visit the RTA website at www.rta.nsw.gov.au/wov

Will any written-off vehicles be able to be registered?

Most written-off vehicles will not be able to be re-registered from 31 January 2011. However in limited instances, the RTA will consider applications to repair and register vehicles on a case-by-case basis.

To ensure you comply with your legal obligations you must refer to the appropriate legislation. Information on the latest laws can be checked by visiting the NSW legislation website (www.legislation.nsw.gov.au).

This publication does not represent a comprehensive statement of the law as it applies to particular problems or to individuals or as a substitute for legal advice. You should seek independent legal advice if you need assistance on the application of the law to your situation.

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The information in this document is accurate at the time of printing.

For the latest information go to
www.rta.nsw.gov.au/wov or call 13 22 13

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Transport
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Authority

Written-off vehicle reforms 2011



INFORMATION FOR AUVIS AND HVAIS
Authorised Unregistered Vehicle Inspection Stations
Heavy Vehicle Authorised Inspection Stations

Which vehicles will be considered for repair and registration?

The registered vehicle operator (at the time the vehicle was assessed as a written-off vehicle) can apply to the RTA if the vehicle is:

- In an exempt vehicle category.
- Able to be repaired to legislated vehicle safety standards.

Exempt vehicle categories include:

- High market value.
- Hail damage.
- Low production run.
- First or last in production run or model range.
- Personally imported.
- Individually constructed.
- Inherited.
- Owned for five years or more by the registered operator.
- Registered operator is a member of a recognised enthusiasts' club for vehicles of that type.

What will the repair and registration process be?

1. The insurer assesses the damaged vehicle and, if requested, gives a Declaration of Vehicle Damage to the registered operator or owner.
2. The vehicle operator or owner sends an Application to Repair a written-off vehicle to the RTA.
3. If the RTA issues an Authorisation to Repair:
 - The vehicle must be repaired according to manufacturer's guidelines (or to recognised industry standards if there are no manufacturer's guidelines), and
 - A vehicle repairer with an appropriate class of licence issued by NSW Fair Trading must certify that the repairs have been carried out to the above standards.

How will the changes affect AUVIS and HVAIS inspections?

Unregistered vehicles recorded as repairable on the WOVVR before 31 January 2011

BEFORE 31 JULY 2011

Up to 30 July 2011 there will be no changes to inspection requirements for unregistered repairable write-offs recorded on the WOVVR before 31 January 2011. These vehicles will still need to pass AUVIS or HVAIS and if in an RTA Vehicle Identification Inspection Unit (VIU) area, a VIU inspection.

Vehicles with a registered address in a country area will continue to have WOV checks at an AUVIS until 31 July 2011.

FROM 31 JULY 2011

For an identity (WOV) check the vehicle must have a VIU inspection. Country AUVIS inspections will only include safety and design checks.

Note: People interested in certifying repairs to written-off vehicles should refer to the RTA website for further information – www.rta.nsw.gov.au/wov

4. **The vehicle must pass an AUVIS or HVAIS* inspection.**
5. **The vehicle must pass an RTA Vehicle Identification Inspection Unit (VIU) inspection. Please note, vehicles with a registered address in a country area will need a VIU inspection.**
6. If the vehicle meets the above requirements, the RTA will change its status on the WOVVR to a repairable write-off.
7. The vehicle operator or owner can apply to the RTA to register the vehicle.

* An HVAIS inspection is needed for caravans and trailers that are fitted with breakaway brakes or that have a gross vehicle mass (GVM) of 2 tonnes or greater.

Vehicles recorded on the WOVVR from 31 January 2011

Inspections by AUVIS or HVAIS will include safety and design checks. For the identity (WOV) check, irrespective of location, the vehicle must attend a VIU inspection.

The following table summarises registration requirements for written-off vehicles.

Written-off vehicle inspection and registration requirements from 31 January 2011

From 31.1.2011, to register a written-off vehicle in NSW:	Recorded on WOVVR from 31.1.2011	Repairable write-offs recorded on WOVVR before 31.1.2011		
		Register before 31.7.2011	Register to 30.1.2013	Register from 31.1.2013
The registered vehicle operator applies to the RTA and receives authorisation to repair the written-off vehicle.	✓	✗	✗	✓
A repairer with an appropriate class of licence from NSW Fair Trading certifies the vehicle repairs.	✓	✗	✓	✓
The repaired vehicle must pass safety, design and identity inspections.	✓	✓	✓	✓