

BUS SAFETY

March 2012



Managing your annual bus safety inspection

Under the *Bus Safety Act 2009* (Vic) bus safety inspections are a legal requirement for accredited and registered operators. Each bus that is used in the provision of the operator's bus service must be inspected annually.

Who can inspect your buses?

Any licensed vehicle tester authorised by VicRoads to test buses may inspect a bus for roadworthiness.

What is inspected?

The inspection is a check of the bus to ensure that key components have not worn or deteriorated and that it is safe for normal road use. An inspection mainly covers items including:

- > wheels and tyres
- > steering, suspension and braking systems
- > seats and seat belts
- > lamps and reflectors
- > windscreen and windows, including front windscreen wipers and washers
- > the structure of the bus itself, and
- > other safety related items on the body, chassis or engine.

For more information about what is involved in a bus safety inspection, please visit the VicRoads website at www.vicroads.vic.gov.au.

What is the outcome of a bus safety inspection?

After an inspection, the licensed vehicle tester will issue either a roadworthy certificate or a test report listing the defective areas of the bus.

A roadworthy certificate means that the bus is safe for normal road use. However, it does not mean that the vehicle is in top condition without wear or deterioration.

For the purpose of an annual inspection required by the Act the certificate is valid for 12 months from the date of issue.

If you have been issued with a test report listing the defective areas of the bus, a follow-up inspection is not required. However, bus operators must deal with the defects in the following manner:

- > Accredited bus operators must add the defects to the defect reporting and clearance section of their Maintenance Management System.
- > Registered bus operators should keep records of their annual bus safety inspection. Although the Act does not require registered bus operators to have a Maintenance Management System, Transport Safety Victoria may request evidence that an operator's buses have been maintained in a roadworthy condition.

Where to get more information

Hotline: 1800 223 022

Website: www.transportsafety.vic.gov.au

Email: info@transportsafety.vic.gov.au

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