



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE

# PORT OF CHICAGO PIPELINE

June 16,1999

NO. 99-15

**TO : Exporters, Forwarders and Other Concerned Parties**

**SUBJECT: Export Requirements for Used Vehicles**

Effective May 6, 1999, Treasury Decision 99-34 amended the Customs Regulations governing the exportation of used vehicles. The principle aim of this regulatory change is to require "best" documentation to establish ownership for the exportation of used vehicles. Customs believes that the original title document is the single most important document needed to prevent the illegal exportation of stolen vehicles and that this regulatory change will strengthen Customs enforcement efforts against the exportation of stolen vehicles.

## **Exportation Requirements**

### Basic requirements

A person attempting to export a used self-propelled vehicle shall present to Customs, at the port of exportation, both the vehicle and the required documentation describing the vehicle, which includes the VIN or, if the vehicle does not have a VIN, the product identification number (PIN). Exportation of a vehicle will be permitted only upon compliance with these requirements, unless the vehicle was entered into the United States under an in-bond procedure or under a carnet or Temporary Importation Bond

### Documentation requirement (in brief)

#### 1. Titled Vehicles Without a Lien.

Original or certified copy of the Certificate of Title and two complete copies.

("Certified" means a document issued by a government authority that includes on it a signed statement by the authority that the copy is an authentic copy of the original. For vehicles titled in Illinois, the Motor Vehicle Records Division will provide exporters with a certified abstract of the vehicle's information as extracted from the title record. The State will charge a nominal fee for this abstract.)

For a "Certified" copy of an Illinois vehicle title, please contact:

Secretary of State  
Record Inquiry Section  
501 S. Second Street, Room 408  
Springfield, Illinois 62756

Telephone (217) 782-6992

2. Titled Vehicles With a Recorded Lien or that are Leased.
  - a. Original or certified copy of the Certificate of Title and two complete copies.
  - b. Owner or lien holder must provide authorization on company letterhead for exportation in accordance with 19 CFR 192.2(b)(1)(ii).
3. Newly Manufactured Untitled Vehicles.

Original Manufacturers Statement of Origin (MSO) and two complete copies of (MSO) or dealer's invoice and two complete copies of dealer's invoice.
4. Junk or Scrap Vehicles that are Untitled.

Original Junk or Scrap Certificate and two complete copies.

Authentication of documentation.

Customs will determine the authenticity of the documents submitted. Once the authenticity of the documents is established, Customs will mark the original documents. In most cases the original document(s) will be returned to the exporter.

### **References**

A quick reference guide for Required Proof of Ownership and an amended copy of 19CFR192 are attached for your future reference. Should you have any questions on this matter, please feel free to contact Gene Taylor, Supervisory Inspector, EXODUS at 847-616-4060, extension 113.

Carl Ambroson  
(Acting) Port Director

# **VEHICLE EXPORT DOCUMENTATION QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE\***

\*This list is designed to be used only as a quick reference guide. For a complete explanation of the documentary requirements, please refer to 19 CFR 192.2(b).

**NON-LIEN/NON-LEASED U.S. active titled vehicles require an original title or copy of an original title certified by the State in which the vehicle was titled, and two copies of the original or certified copy.**

**Some States such as Illinois, will not issue a certified copy of the title. In this case, a certified copy of the vehicle information extracted from the title and certified by the State of Illinois will be accepted by Customs. Further information for Illinois titled vehicles may be obtained by contacting:**

**Secretary of State  
Record Inquiry Section  
501 S. Second Street, Room 408  
Springfield, Illinois 62756**

**Telephone (217) 782-6992**

## **19 CFR 192.2(b)(1)(I)**

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**LEASED OR LIENED VEHICLES** require the same documentation as above plus a letter from the lien holder or lessor authorizing export of the vehicle. The letter must include the following information:

- VIN number of vehicle.
- Name of Lessor or lienholder.
- Phone number for lessor or lienholder
- Original signature of authorized individual representing lienholder or lessor AND date.

## **19 CFR 192.2(b)(1)(ii)**

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**FOREIGN TITLED VEHICLES** require the original document providing satisfactory proof of ownership to be translated into English, and two copies.

## **19 CFR 192.2(b)(2)**

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**UNTITLED-NEWLY MANUFACTURED VEHICLES** require the original copy of the manufacturer's statement or certificate of origin, and two copies.

## **19 CFR 192.2(b)(3)(I)**

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**JUNK OR SCRAP VEHICLES** require an original or certified copy of a junk or scrap certificate, and two copies of the original or certified copy.

**19 CFR 192.2(b)(3)(iii)**

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**UNREGISTERED VEHICLES** where the title or certificate is no longer in force or the vehicle is not required to be titled or registered require the Exporter to submit an authentic original document showing the basis of ownership such as a bill of sale, and two copies of that original document. The Owner must certify to Customs in writing that the procurement of the vehicle was a bona fide transaction and that the vehicle is not stolen.

**19 CFR 192.2(b)(3)(iv)**

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Documents must be presented to Customs 72 hours before exportation along with the vehicle.

**19 CFR 192.2 (c)(1)**

## PART 192—EXPORT CONTROL

### § 192.0 Scope.

This part sets forth regulations pertaining to procedures for the lawful exportation of used self-propelled vehicles, vessels and aircraft, and the penalties and liabilities incurred for failure to comply with any of the procedures. This part also sets forth regulations concerning controls exercised by Customs with respect to the exportation of certain merchandise.

#### Subpart A—Exportation of Used Self-Propelled Vehicles, Vessels, and Aircraft

### § 192.1 Definitions.

The following are general definitions for the purposes of this subpart A.

Certified. *“Certified” when used with reference to a copy means a document issued by a government authority that includes on it a signed statement by the authority that the copy is an authentic copy of the original.*

Copy. *“Copy” refers to a duplicate or photocopy of an original document. Where there is any writing on the backside of an original document, a “complete copy” means that both sides of the document are copied.*

Export. *“Export” refers to the transportation of merchandise out of the U.S. for the purpose of being entered into the commerce of a foreign country.*

Self-propelled vehicle. *“Self-propelled vehicle” includes any automobile, truck, tractor, bus, motorcycle, motor home, self-propelled agricultural machinery, self-propelled construction equipment, self-propelled special use equipment, and any other self-propelled vehicle used or designed for running on land but not on rail.*

Ultimate purchaser. *“Ultimate purchaser” means the first person, other than a dealer purchasing in his capacity as a dealer, who in good faith purchases a self-propelled vehicle for purposes other than resale.*

Used. *“Used” refers to any self-propelled vehicle the equitable or legal title to which has been transferred by a manufacturer, distributor, or dealer to an ultimate purchaser.*

### § 192.2 Requirements for exportation.

(a) Basic requirements. A person attempting to export a used self-propelled vehicle shall present to Customs, at the port of exportation, both the vehicle and *the required documentation* describing the vehicle, which includes the Vehicle Identification Number or, if the vehicle does not have a Vehicle Identification Number, the product identification number. Exportation of a vehicle will be permitted only upon compliance with these requirements, unless the vehicle was entered into the United States under an in-bond procedure, or under a carnet or Temporary Importation Bond; a vehicle entered under an in-bond procedure, or under a carnet or Temporary Importation Bond is exempt from these requirements. The person attempting to export the vehicle may employ an agent for the exportation of the vehicle.

#### (b) Documentation required.

##### (1) For U.S.-titled vehicles.

(i) Vehicles issued an original certificate of title. *For used, self-propelled vehicles issued, by any jurisdiction in the United States, a Certificate of Title or a Salvage Title that remains in force, the owner must provide to Customs, at the time and place specified in this section, the original Certificate of Title or a certified copy of the Certificate of Title and two complete copies of the original Certificate of Title or certified copy of the original.*

(ii) Where title evidences third-party ownership/claims. *If the used, self-propelled vehicle is leased or a recorded lien exists in the U.S., in addition to complying with*

paragraph (b)(1)(i) of this section, the provisional owner must provide to Customs a separate writing from the third-party-in-interest which expressly provides that the subject vehicle may be exported. This writing must be on the third-party's letterhead paper, and contain a complete description of the vehicle including the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), the name of the owner or lienholder of the leased vehicle, and the telephone numbers at which that owner or lienholder may be contacted. The writing must bear an original signature of the third-party and state the date it was signed.

(iii) Where U.S. Government employees are involved. If the used, self-propelled vehicle is owned by a U.S. government employee and is being exported in conjunction with that employee's reassignment abroad pursuant to official travel orders, then, in lieu of complying with paragraph (b)(1)(i) of this section, the employee may be required to establish that he has complied with the sponsoring agency's internal travel department procedures for vehicle export.

(2) For foreign-titled vehicles. For used, self-propelled vehicles that are registered or titled abroad, the owner must provide to Customs, at the time and place specified in this section, the original document that provides satisfactory proof of ownership (with an English translation of the text if the original language is not in English), and two complete copies of that document (and translation, if necessary)

(3) For untitled vehicles.

(i) Newly-manufactured vehicles issued an MSO. For newly-manufactured, self-propelled vehicles that are purchased from a U.S. manufacturer, distributor, or dealer that become used, as defined in this subpart, and are issued a Manufacturer's Statement of Origin (MSO), but not issued a Certificate of Title by any jurisdiction of the United States, the owner must provide to Customs, at the time and place specified in this section, the original MSO and two complete copies of the original MSO.

(ii) Newly-manufactured vehicles not issued an MSO. For newly-manufactured, self-propelled vehicles purchased from a U.S. manufacturer, distributor, or dealer that become used, as defined in this subpart, and not issued an MSO or a Certificate of Title by any jurisdiction of the United States, the owner must establish that the jurisdiction from where the vehicle comes does not have any ownership documentation requirements regarding such vehicles and provide to Customs, at the time and place specified in this section, an original document that proves ownership, such as a dealer's invoice, and two complete copies of such original documentation.

(iii) Vehicles issued a junk or scrap certificate. For used, self-propelled vehicles for which a junk or scrap certificate issued, by any jurisdiction of the United States, remains in force, the owner must provide to Customs, at the time and place specified in this section, the original certificate or a certified copy of the original document and two complete copies of the original document or certified copy of the original.

(iv) Vehicles issued a title or certificate that is not in force or are otherwise not registered. For used, self-propelled vehicles that were issued, by any jurisdiction of the United States, a title or certificate that is no longer in force, or that are not required to be titled or registered, and for which an MSO was not issued, the owner must establish that the jurisdiction from where the vehicle comes does not have any ownership documentation requirements regarding such vehicles and provide to Customs, at the time and place specified in this section, the original document that

*shows his basis for ownership or right of possession, such as a bill of sale, and two complete copies of that original document. Further, the owner must certify in writing to Customs that the procurement of the vehicle was a bona fide transaction, and that the vehicle presented for export is not stolen.*

*(c) When presented.*

*(1) Exportation by vessel or aircraft. For those vehicles exported by vessel or aircraft, the required documentation and the vehicle must be presented to Customs at least 72 hours prior to export.*

*(2) Exportation at land border crossing points. For those vehicles exported by rail, highway, or under their own power:*

*(i) The required documentation must be submitted to Customs at least 72 hours prior to export; and*

*(ii) The vehicle must be presented to Customs at the time of exportation.*

*(d) Where presented. Port directors will establish locations at which exporters must present the required documentation and the vehicles for inspection. Port directors will publicize these locations, including their hours of operation.*

*(e) Authentication of documentation. Customs will determine the authenticity of the documents submitted. Once the authenticity of the documents is established, Customs will mark the documents. In most cases the original document(s) will be returned to the exporter. In those cases where the original title document was presented to and retained by Customs and cannot be found prior to the vehicle's export, the exporter's authenticated copy of the original documentation serves as evidence of compliance with the reporting requirements.*

§ 192.3 Penalties.

(a) A \$500 penalty shall be assessed against an exporter attempting to export a vehicle without complying with the requirements set forth in this part of the regulations.

(b) A \$500 penalty shall be assessed against an exporter who has exported a vehicle without complying with the requirements set forth in this part of the regulations.

(c) A penalty not to exceed \$10,000 may be assessed against an importer or exporter who knowingly imports, exports or attempts to import or export:

(1) Any stolen self-propelled vehicle, vessel, aircraft or part of a self-propelled vehicle, vessel or aircraft; or

(2) Any self-propelled vehicle or part of a self-propelled vehicle from which the identification number has been removed, obliterated, tampered with, or altered.

(d) Any stolen self-propelled vehicle, vessel or aircraft or part thereof or any self-propelled vehicle or part of a self-propelled vehicle from which the identification number has been removed, obliterated, tampered with or altered may be subject to seizure and forfeiture pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1627a.

§ 192.4 Liability of carriers.

Under the provisions of 46 U.S.C. App. 91, the vessel master is charged with the responsibility for presenting a true manifest. If used vehicles are not included on the manifest or are inaccurately described thereon, a liability of not more than \$1,000 nor less than \$500 will be incurred.