

Second-hand inspection for modified vehicles

When a modified vehicle is sold it has to be inspected and approved (second-hand inspection). Depending on whether the vehicle has already been restored to its original condition, various protocols need to be followed.

The vehicle remains unchanged

If the modifications to the vehicle remain unchanged, two specific issues have to be dealt with in relation to the second-hand inspection:

1. A driver aptitude certificate or technical sheet from the CARA aptitude centre **regarding the future driver** must be issued with the second-hand inspection of the vehicle
2. Surname, first name and address of the future owner must be filled in on the registration application

The vehicle has been restored to its original condition

If the vehicle has been restored to its original condition by the company that carried out the modifications, by an authorised engineer, a non-accredited engineer or a private individual:

1. If the vehicle was modified before 1st September 2014 and driven directly by the customer to an inspection centre of his/her choice, he/she will have received an FPS inspection certificate (FM819).
If this is the case, the customer may have the vehicle restored to its original condition by the modifier.

When the second-hand inspection is carried out, the inspection station will check to see whether the modifications have actually been removed. If this is the case, the words "modified vehicle, certificate required" will be left on the inspection certificate (note in this instance that all modified parts must be removed, for example folding pedals, etc.).

2. If the vehicle was modified after 1st September 2014 and was approved by an individual inspection (carried out by an authorised engineer or by a technical service), the customer will have received a Belgian individual inspection certificate (e6*EVA*... / e6*IFA*...) for the modified vehicle.

The customer can have the modifications removed by the authorised engineer in question, by a different authorised engineer, a non-accredited engineer or a private individual.

- a. If the original authorised engineer carries out the modification, that engineer will ensure that an inspection (x°step) is requested to check on the change back to the original condition.
- b. If a different authorised engineer carries out the modification, that engineer will ensure that an inspection (x°step) is requested to check on the change back to the original condition.
- c. If the modifications, or their removal, are not carried out by an authorised engineer, the customer must have the modifications carried out verified by an authorised technical service. The technical service will ensure that an inspection (x°step) is requested to check on the change back to the original condition.

With procedures b. and c. the modifier must ask for consent from the party carrying out the previous phase. This party must give its permission for the vehicle to be restored to its original condition (authenticated with a certificate).

For the procedures detailed above (a., b., c.) a new individual inspection certificate will be issued after inspection.

With a second-hand inspection and approval, the inspection station will check on the existence of this individual inspection certificate and will also check that the modifications have actually been removed. If this is the case, the words "modified vehicle, certificate required" will be left on the inspection certificate.

The inspection (x°step) can be applied for with one of the three authorised regions.

In exceptional cases, the vehicle may not be restored to its original condition. This is the case, for example, where relatively major modifications have been made, such as the lowering of the load-bed.

If the modification consists merely of fitting a ball or 'spinner' to the steering wheel without connection to any controls, it is not necessary to go through the procedures detailed above. The rules are more flexible in this regard and just a sanction code will be noted on the inspection certificate.