

# VEHICLE INSPECTION OPERATIONS & TRAINING MANUAL FOR OFFICIAL VEHICLE INSPECTION STATIONS

(VEHICLE EMISSIONS INSPECTION)



This manual presented by:

DPS  
Representative \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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# CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION

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## **01.05.00 INTRODUCTION**

This manual provides the Department's instruction to inspection stations and inspectors for conducting the vehicle emissions inspection in counties with vehicle emissions inspection and maintenance (I/M) programs. This manual supplements the "Vehicle Inspection Operations & Training Manual," which provides instructions for the annual safety inspection in those counties.

## **01.10.00 PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

**01.10.01 Purpose.** The purpose of the state's I/M program is to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Federal Clean Air Act, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations, the Texas Clean Air Act, and the State Implementation Plan regarding vehicle emissions in affected counties.

**01.10.02 Objective.** The objective of the I/M program is the reduction of air pollution from motor vehicles by means of various emissions inspections to determine compliance with established emissions standards, and to ensure that necessary repairs are completed.

**01.10.03 Goal.** The goal of the I/M program is for the State of Texas to meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS).

## **01.15.00 I/M PROGRAM DESIGN**

The design of the I/M program is to concentrate on specific pollutants found in vehicle exhaust emissions. Those pollutants are carbon monoxide (CO), hydrocarbons (HC), and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>). The Texas I/M Program is similar to programs utilized in counties across the U.S. having air quality below the National Ambient Air Quality Standard.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas sometimes found in urban areas in concentrations that can be harmful to people. It is a by-product of combustion and the automobile is the single largest source of this pollutant.

Hydrocarbons are organic compounds composed of hydrogen and carbon. The energy in such compounds is released when combined with oxygen during combustion. Most engine fuels, such as gasoline, propane, methane, etc., contain hydrocarbons and some portion remains after combustion. Hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides react with sunlight and warm temperatures to form ground-level ozone. Ground-level ozone, a main ingredient in smog, can cause upper respiratory problems and lung damage.

Nitrogen oxides, or NO<sub>x</sub>, is the generic term for a group of highly reactive gases, all of which contain nitrogen and oxygen in varying amounts. Many of the nitrogen oxides are colorless and odorless. However, one common pollutant, nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), along with particles in the air, is often seen as a reddish-brown haze (smog) over many urban areas. During combustion, high heat and pressure will cause nitrogen to combine with unused oxygen.

The specific vehicle emissions test used in the I/M program area and in specific counties focuses on the pollutant problem for that area.

#### **01.20.00 I/M PROGRAM APPLICABILITY**

The I/M program is applicable in all affected counties. The term "affected counties" applies to all counties classified as nonattainment, where the State Implementation Plan (SIP) requires an I/M program and "participating" counties that voluntarily enter the program in an effort to avoid classification as non-attainment.

In this manual, the affected counties are located in the following areas: Dallas/Ft Worth area (Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, and Tarrant counties), Houston/Galveston area (Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, & Montgomery counties), El Paso area (El Paso County), and the Austin area (Travis and Williamson counties).

In El Paso, Travis and Williamson counties, the I/M program focuses on the reduction of carbon monoxide and hydrocarbon emissions. In all other affected counties, the focus is the reduction of carbon monoxide, hydrocarbon, and oxides of nitrogen emissions from designated vehicles.

#### **01.25.00 LAYOUT OF MANUAL**

This manual consists of five (5) chapters. Chapter 1 is an introductory chapter, which explains the purpose and goals of the program. Chapter 2 describes the Acceleration Simulation Mode 2 (ASM2) emissions test performed on 1995 and older designated gasoline powered vehicles in all affected counties except El Paso, Travis and Williamson counties. Chapter 3 describes the On-Board Diagnostic Second Generation (OBDII) emissions test performed on 1996 and newer designated gasoline powered vehicles in all affected counties. Chapter 4 describes the Two Speed Idle Test (TSI), which is the type of emissions test performed on all 1995 model year and older designated vehicles in El Paso, Travis and Williamson counties. Chapter 5 is a reference section. Additionally, Chapter 5 contains DPS Administrative Rules 37 TAC §§23.51 – 23.58 (Vehicle Emissions Inspection and Maintenance Program).

#### **01.30.00 PUBLICATION AUTHORITY**

This manual is promulgated under the authority of the Texas Transportation Code, Chapter 548, the Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 382 (Texas Clean Air Act), and administrative rules adopted by the Department of Public Safety.

#### **01.35.00 OBLIGATION TO ADHERE TO MANUAL**

Failure to comply with any law, rule, regulation, or provision of this manual pertaining to vehicle emissions inspection will result in adverse administrative action that may result in the denial, suspension, or revocation of your inspection authority, and/or criminal charges when applicable.

**CHAPTER TWO  
ACCELERATION SIMULATION MODE 2 (ASM2)  
INSPECTION PROCEDURE**

**THIS CHAPTER IS NOT APPLICABLE IN EI PASO, TRAVIS &  
WILLIAMSON COUNTIES**

**CHAPTER TWO**  
**ACCELERATION SIMULATION MODE 2 (ASM2)**  
**INSPECTION PROCEDURE**

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## **02.05.00 ACCELERATION SIMULATION MODE 2 (ASM2) EMISSIONS INSPECTION**

### **02.05.01 GENERAL**

The primary vehicle emissions analyzer certified by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is capable of performing all emissions tests required by the Texas I/M program. The tests are the Acceleration Simulation Mode 2 (ASM2), On-Board Diagnostic II (OBDII), and Two-Speed Idle (TSI). The analyzer software is designed to administer the required emissions test. This analyzer must be used for inspections in all affected counties except those stations with an OBD-only waiver.

This chapter describes the procedures used by certified inspectors in conducting the Acceleration Simulation Mode 2 (ASM2) emissions inspection on designated vehicles in affected counties.

### **02.05.02 ASM2 TEST PROTOCOL**

The Acceleration Simulation Mode 2 (ASM2) is a loaded-mode emissions test using a five-gas analyzer and dynamometer (a treadmill-like device for the front or rear traction tires of the vehicle). It measures exhaust emissions for levels of hydrocarbon, carbon monoxide, and nitrogen oxides.

This I/M program uses an ASM test with two modes, hence the use of “2” as a suffix. In the 50/15 mode, the vehicle is tested on the dynamometer simulating the use of 50% of the vehicle available horsepower to accelerate at a rate of 3.3 miles per hour (mph) per second to a constant speed of 15 mph. In the 25/25 mode, the vehicle is tested on the dynamometer simulating the use of 25% of the vehicle available horsepower to accelerate at a rate of 3.3 mph per second to a constant speed of 25 mph.

In this manual, the term “ASM” shall refer to the Acceleration Simulation Mode 2 (ASM2) test.

### **02.05.03 STATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ASM TESTING**

In addition to all equipment required to perform safety inspections, all inspection stations performing Acceleration Simulation Mode (ASM) emissions testing must also have a minimum of the following:

1. A five-gas analyzer and dynamometer with gas cap tester certified by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).
2. Approved Bar 97 High and Low calibration gas for the analyzer.
3. A designated telephone line dedicated solely to each analyzer in the program.
4. An engine cooling fan provided by the analyzer manufacturer or a replacement fan meeting the original equipment specifications; i.e. maximum outside diameter of 30 inches, and a minimum cubic feet per minute (CFM) rating of 3000 CFM.

5. An adequate supply of printer supplies.

6. All required analyzer manuals.

7. A business arrangement with the Texas Information Management Systems (TIMS) contractor to obtain a telecommunications link to the Vehicle Information Database (VID). If the inspection station fails to pay its data link fees to the contractor, then the analyzer will be locked out from any further inspections until the problem is resolved.

#### **02.05.04 TESTING DATA COLLECTION**

All certified emissions inspection stations must report the results of emissions testing, since the collection and reporting of accurate vehicle emissions testing data has significant importance for the Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) program.

Each analyzer is allowed a certain number of off-line inspections since occasional telephone line problems may occur. After restoration of the telephone link, the off-line data will be sent to the VID. However, when the analyzer exceeds the off-line inspection limit the analyzer will be locked out from any further inspections until the problem is resolved. Failure to reestablish the telecommunications link to the VID can result in either suspension or revocation of the inspection station license.

#### **02.10.00 CERTIFIED INSPECTORS**

Only certified inspectors who have completed training with either DPS or a DPS approved outside training school and received a certified vehicle inspector access ID card (scan card) may perform vehicle emissions testing.

#### **02.15.00 ASM TESTING APPLICABILITY**

(A). ASM emissions testing will be performed in the following counties:

1. Brazoria,
2. Collin,
3. Dallas,
4. Denton,
5. Ellis,
6. Fort Bend,
7. Galveston,

8. Harris,
9. Johnson,
10. Kaufman,
11. Parker,
12. Rockwall,
13. Montgomery, and
14. Tarrant.

(B). ASM emissions testing is performed on all motor vehicles that are:

1. capable of being powered by gasoline (except motorcycles),
2. model years 1995 and older, to and including 24 years old, and
3. presented for annual safety inspection; or
4. required by state law.

(C). Examples of additional vehicle emission inspections “required by state law” are:

1. Department of Public Safety directs that a vehicle receive an out-of-cycle emissions test,
2. vehicle requires an emissions test on resale, or
3. a public college or university requires emissions testing prior to issuance of a school parking permit.

(D). ASM emissions inspections will be performed on other vehicles, as the Department of Public Safety shall direct.

## **02.20.00 INSPECTION CERTIFICATES**

The following inspections will be entered into the analyzer at all certified ASM emissions inspection stations.

1. Safety only
2. Two Year Safety (new car and light duty truck)

### 3. Safety and Emissions

#### 4. Emissions only

#### 5. Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (commercial windshield and trailer inspections)

#### 6. Trailer/Motorcycle

The Department approved “ASM Safety and Emissions Certificate” will be issued to vehicles passing the safety and ASM emissions inspection, with the following exceptions.

1. Vehicles model year 1996 and newer (OBDII) that would not be eligible to receive an ASM emissions inspection, but where DPS notifies inspection stations to perform the emissions inspection using the ASM emissions test on these specific vehicles. These vehicles, and only these specific vehicles, will receive a Department approved “OBD Safety and Emissions Certificate” after passing both the safety and ASM emissions inspection.

2. Vehicles qualifying under DPS rules for a “unique emissions-test-only inspection certificate.” These vehicles are exempt from the annual safety inspection or not required to be emissions tested at the time of the safety inspection. Specifically, a unique emissions-test-only inspection certificate shall be issued to:

a. Federal Vehicles (not registered in Texas). Federal government or quasi-governmental agency vehicles that are primarily operated in affected counties, but do not display Texas license plates, are exempt from the annual safety inspection; however, they shall be required to comply with all vehicle emissions requirements.

b. Out-of-State Registered Vehicles (for out-of-state registration purposes only). Vehicles registered in another state that require an emissions test for registration purposes in that state, may be emissions tested and issued an emissions-test-only inspection certificate.

c. Commercial Motor Vehicles Requiring an Emission Test. A motor vehicle requiring a Federal Motor Carrier Safety Inspection, that meets the definition of a designated vehicle, must pass an emissions inspection and display a unique emissions-test-only inspection certificate on the lower left-hand corner of the windshield, immediately above the registration certificate, prior to receiving a commercial vehicle inspection certificate. The commercial vehicle inspection must be performed within **15 calendar days** of the issuance of the emissions-test-only inspection certificate. The inspector shall not remove the unique emissions-test-only certificate when the new commercial inspection certificate is issued.

d. College Students Away From Home.

(1) A vehicle, registered in an affected county, operated by a college student that was issued a safety-only inspection in a non-affected county, and upon return to the affected county who requests an emissions-only inspection.

(2) A vehicle, registered in a non-affected county or out of state, operated by a college student, where the public institution of higher learning is located in an affected county and requires vehicles to be emissions tested as a condition to receive a permit to park or drive on the grounds of the institution.

e. Current Safety or Safety and Emissions Inspection. A vehicle with a valid inspection certificate, either safety only or safety and emissions, directed by DPS to undergo an emissions inspection (usually as a result of DPS on-road emissions testing).

3. Only the fee for the emissions test will be charged for emissions tests performed on the vehicles listed above. All unique emissions-test-only inspection certificates expire at the same time the safety-only inspection certificate expires or the last day of the month indicated on the back of the certificate and year indicated by the hole punch on the unique emissions test-only inspection certificate, or whichever occurs first.

## **02.25.00 ASM2 INSPECTION DETAILS**

(A). Order of inspection:

1. Conduct a preliminary examination of the vehicle to ensure that it can be tested on the ASM analyzer without hazard. Check the following items:

a. Vehicle Drive Tires: both drive tires are approximately the same size (no space-saver spare); look for the presence of bulges, cord showing, or any other defects that could cause a safety hazard on the dynamometer; and

b. Presence of Leaks (fuel, substantial coolant, or oil).

**Do not proceed with the emissions inspection if the vehicle fails the preliminary examination.**

2. If necessary, prepare the analyzer for testing.

a. Leak checks and gas cap calibrations are required every **24 hours**. Leak checks may only be performed by capping the ends of the probe. If the analyzer fails the leak check or gas cap calibration test, no inspection may be performed until the problem is repaired.

b. Gas calibrations and dynamometer calibrations are required every **72 hours**.

3. **Scan your inspector Access ID Card or keyboard enter your inspector PIN number, and then select the type of inspection to be performed.**

4. Follow the screen prompts, answering questions and entering required data.

a. The inspector must enter all required information as accurately and correctly as reasonably possible. Incorrect information may cause inaccurate test results.

b. Any vehicle information displayed on the analyzer screen that is incorrect will be corrected by the inspector before continuing to the next screen.

5. Conduct a complete safety inspection, if required.

6. When prompted, the inspector should restrain the vehicle when operating it on the dynamometer.

a. Restrain front wheel drive vehicles with lateral wheel restraints, tie down straps, wheel chocks, and the park brake.

b. Restrain rear wheel drive vehicles with lateral wheel restraints, tie down straps, and wheel chocks.

7. When prompted by the analyzer, the inspector must place the engine cooling fan in front of the vehicle to aid in engine cooling.

8. If the vehicle has dual exhausts, then insert probes into both pipes.

9. The analyzer requires a RPM signal from the vehicle.

a. During testing, the minimum RPM for automatic transmissions is 100 RPM. The minimum RPM for standard transmissions is 1250 RPM. The maximum RPM for either is 3000 RPM.

b. If the length of the vehicle prevents the use of the analyzer tachometer lead when the exhaust probe is placed in the tail pipe, then a RPM bypass is approved. The authority to bypass any other RPM signals may only be granted by DPS.

10. Follow the screen prompts to conduct a complete emissions inspection using the ASM five-gas analyzer and dynamometer except under the following conditions:

a. Vehicle has All Wheel Drive, Full Time 4 Wheel Drive, Non-Disengageable Traction Control;  
or

b. Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) greater than 8,500 pounds.

c. Under both conditions, the dynamometer cannot be utilized. When this information is entered into the analyzer, it will automatically prompt the inspector to conduct a Two-Speed Idle (TSI) test.

The analyzer will prompt the inspector, step by step, through a Two-Speed Idle (TSI) test.

Vehicles too large to fit into a standard inspection bay can be inspected outside the building, as close to the analyzer as possible, in an area approved by a Department representative.

11. Gas Cap Testing. Every gasoline-powered vehicle from 2-24 model years old will be checked for presence of a gas cap and then tested by a Department approved “gas cap testing device” to determine if the gas cap is defective. The following vehicles are exempt:

- a. Antique vehicles.
- b. Slow-moving vehicles.
- c. Motorcycles.
- d. Vehicles operated exclusively by a fuel other than gasoline.
- e. Vehicles newer than two (2) years old and older than 24 years old.

(1) Inspection Procedure.

- a. Conduct daily calibration check of gas cap testing device.
- b. Check for presence (all gas caps must be present).
- c. Check for correct type of gas cap(s).
- d. Remove gas cap(s) and test using an approved testing device. (Gas cap present but not testable will not be cause for rejection.)
- e. Any gas cap(s) failing the initial test will be tested a second time to verify failure.

(2) Inspect for and reject if:

- a. Vehicle not equipped with required gas cap(s).
- b. Vehicle not equipped with proper type gas cap(s).
- c. Gas cap(s) fails both tests.

12. Emissions test results are automatically recorded as pass/fail by the analyzer.

13. If the vehicle passes the required inspections, then the analyzer will prompt the inspector to enter the certificate number.

- a. Use an ASM certificate only for a Safety and Emissions inspection, except as otherwise directed by DPS.
- b. Use the unique Emissions-Test-Only inspection certificate for an emissions-only inspection.

14. The inspector must give a copy of the test results to the motorist. The inspector conducting the test will sign the test results.

(B). Texas Transportation Code, Section 548.053, states “If an inspection discloses the necessity for adjustment, correction, or repair, an inspection station or inspector may not issue an inspection certificate until the adjustment, correction, or repair is made.”

If a vehicle fails any item of inspection, the inspector shall enter the reason for rejection in the space provided on the rejection receipt (VI-7) by typing it in while the rejection receipt is displayed on the analyzer or by handwriting it in after the rejection receipt is printed by the analyzer. The inspector shall verbally explain the reason for the rejection and mark a large “X” on the back of the certificate currently displayed on the vehicle.

A vehicle presented for re-inspection within **15 days**, not counting the day of inspection, will be inspected using the re-inspection menu only.

The inspector shall provide the motorist whose vehicle has failed with the following:

1. Rejection receipt,
2. Emissions test results (VIR) signed by the inspector conducting the test,
3. Vehicle Repair Form (VRF),

### **02.30.00 FEES**

An emissions inspection fee may be charged for those vehicles requiring the vehicle emissions inspection. This fee is in addition to any fee charged for conducting a Safety or Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations Inspection.

1. If the inspection is aborted due to one of the following reasons: loss of oil pressure, loss of coolant or overheating, fuel system leak, excessive engine noise, or other safety problem, i.e., a tire failure, and the appropriate reason is checked on the screen, then the entire inspection will be recorded as a failure and the station will be allowed to collect the entire inspection fee.
2. If the inspection is aborted due to one of the following reasons: no inspection required, analyzer problem, low flow rate, or other equipment failure, and the appropriate reason is checked on the screen, then the entire inspection will be recorded as an abort and the station will not be allowed to charge or collect any inspection fee.

### **02.35.00 REPORTS**

The station inspection log/report will be printed automatically each Monday morning by the analyzer, or may be printed at any time on demand. The inspection station is not required to mail the inspection log/report to DPS; however, the station is required to maintain a copy of the

log/report for one year from the date of printing. A vehicle inspection station is not required to maintain duplicate paper records of electronically reported inspections or transactions.

#### **02.40.00 ANALYZER LOCKOUTS**

(A). Notify the local Texas Department of Public Safety Regulatory Services Division Office for lockouts resulting from:

1. State lockout,
2. State disk drive tamper,
3. Texas Analyzer System (TAS) cabinet tamper, or
4. Exceeding maximum number of inspections without communication to VID contractor.

(B). Notify Gordon-Darby (1-877-434-8467) for lockouts resulting from:

1. Failure to pay communication fees to VID contractor.

(C). Notify the analyzer manufacturer for lockouts resulting from:

1. Gas calibration failure,
2. Hard drive failure,
3. Disk failure,
4. Gas analyzer failure,
5. Leak check failure,
6. Internal clock failure,
7. Warm up failure,
8. Gas cap calibration failure, or
9. Dynamometer calibration failure.

#### **02.45.00 APPROVED EQUIPMENT**

The following is a list of currently approved ASM vendors (alphabetical listing).

1. ESP:  
Model number 10400-57

2. Snap-On:

Sun model number EEEA110 (any letter designation may follow model number)

John Bean model number EEEA116 (any letter designation may follow model number)

3. Worldwide:

Model number EIS5000

**TCEQ Vehicle Emissions Inspection Certified Analyzers**

**Houston-Galveston- Brazoria and Dallas-Fort Worth Program Areas:**

**Certified ASM Analyzers**

- **Environmental Systems Products Inc. (ESP)**
  - Model number 10400-57
  - Estimated price: \$37,995 new, call for discounted pricing on refurbished equipment
  - Extended service contract prices good from May 1, 2012, to April 30, 2013
  - Full coverage: analyzer, dynamometer, and zero air generator (ZAG) - \$3998 annually, \$1,110 quarterly, \$335 monthly
  - Basic coverage: covers analyzer and dynamometer only, no ZAG coverage - \$3,466 annually, \$953 quarterly, \$289 Monthly
  - Sales information: (888)377-7971
  - Extended service contract information: (800)695-4377
- **Worldwide Environmental Products (Worldwide)**
  - Model number EIS-5000S with serial numbers beginning with TX
  - Estimated price: \$25,500 new analyzer with fully refurbished dynamometer
  - Extended service contract prices good from May 1, 2012, to April 30, 2013
  - Extended service contract price: \$4,861.00 annually, \$2,509.00 semi-annually, \$1,233.20 quarterly, \$429.00 monthly
  - Sales information: (800)832-7664
  - Extended service contract information: (800)832-7664, extension 103
- **Snap On Diagnostics**
  - Model number EEEA110A currently not being sold
  - Model number EEEA110B currently not being sold
  - Model number EEEA116A currently not being sold
  - Extended service contract prices good from May 1, 2012, to April 30, 2013
  - Extended service contract price: \$4,650.00 annually
  - Extended service contract information: (800)225-5786

**Updated Analyzer Information from TCEQ can be obtained at:**

**<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/mobilesource/vim/testing.html>**

**CHAPTER THREE  
ON BOARD DIAGNOSTICS II  
INSPECTION PROCEDURE**

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## **3.05.00 ON-BOARD DIAGNOSTICS II (OBDII) EMISSIONS INSPECTION**

### **03.05.01 OBDII GENERAL**

The primary vehicle emissions analyzer certified by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is capable of performing all emissions tests required by the Texas I/M program applicable in the area (county) for which it is certified. With few exceptions, On-Board Diagnostics II (OBDII) is the primary method of emissions testing model year 1996 and newer vehicles.

In the Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW) and Houston/Galveston (HGA) I/M areas, the primary analyzer is capable of performing the On-Board Diagnostics (OBDII), Acceleration Simulation Mode 2 (ASM2), and Two-Speed Idle (TSI) tests. The majority of the stations are equipped with full-service analyzers capable of performing all the required emissions tests, except those stations with an OBD-only waiver.

In the El Paso and Travis/Williamson (EAC) areas, the primary analyzer is capable of performing the On-Board Diagnostics (OBDII) and Two-Speed Idle (TSI) tests. Public OBD-only stations are not authorized in these I/M program areas.

This chapter describes the procedures used by the certified inspectors in performing the On-Board Diagnostics II (OBDII) emissions inspection on vehicles in counties with an I/M program using OBDII testing.

### **03.05.02 OBDII PROTOCOL**

On-Board Diagnostics Second Generation (OBDII) is a computerized system required on 1996 and newer model year vehicles (GVW 8,500 lbs. or less). When an emissions control malfunction is detected, a dashboard light illuminates, displaying one of the following: "Check Engine," "Service Engine Soon," or the international engine symbol. If the OBDII system detects a problem, a corresponding diagnostic trouble code (DTC) is stored in the vehicle's computer memory. OBD equipped vehicles model year 1996 through 2000 shall fail the emissions test in an I/M program if more than two OBD monitors are set to ***Not Ready***. OBD equipped vehicles model year 2001 and newer shall fail the emissions test if more than one OBD monitor is set to ***Not Ready***. During an emissions inspection, the analyzer plugs into the vehicle's diagnostic link connector, checks and downloads stored information from the emissions related components to identify those that are not working properly. Inspection failures occur when there is a malfunction with the OBDII equipment including the on-board computer, related wiring, or when an emissions related component has failed, causing the vehicle's exhaust emissions to be one and a half times the vehicle's certified emissions level as determined by the manufacturer. In this manual, the term OBD shall refer to the second generation of this system, generally referred to as OBDII.

### **03.05.03 STATION REQUIREMENTS FOR OBDII TESTING**

In addition to all equipment required to perform safety inspections, all inspection stations performing On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) emissions inspections must also have a minimum of the following:

1. An emissions analyzer with a gas cap tester certified by the TCEQ to perform at least OBD testing.
2. A designated telephone line dedicated solely to each analyzer in the program.
3. An adequate supply of printer supplies.
4. All required analyzer manuals.
5. A business arrangement with the Texas Information Management Systems (TIMS) contractor to obtain a telecommunications link to the Vehicle Information Database (VID). If the inspection station fails to pay its data link fees to the contractor, the analyzer will be locked out from any further inspections until the problem is resolved.

#### **03.05.04 TESTING DATA COLLECTION**

All certified emissions inspection stations must report the results of emissions testing, since the collection and reporting of accurate vehicle emissions testing data is of significant importance to the inspection and maintenance (I/M) program.

Each analyzer is allowed a certain number of off-line inspections since occasional telephone line problems may occur. After restoration of the telephone link, the off-line data will be sent to the VID. However, when the analyzer exceeds the off-line inspection limit, the analyzer will be locked out from any further inspections until the problem is resolved. Failure to reestablish the telecommunications link to the VID may result in either suspension or revocation of the inspection station license.

#### **03.10.00 CERTIFIED INSPECTORS**

Only certified inspectors who have completed training with either DPS or a DPS approved outside training school and received a certified vehicle inspector access/ID card (scan card) may perform vehicle emissions testing.

#### **03.15.00 OBDII TESTING APPLICABILITY**

(A) OBDII emissions testing will be performed in the following counties:

1. Brazoria,
2. Collin,
3. Dallas,

4. Denton,
5. Ellis,
6. El Paso,
7. Fort Bend,
8. Galveston,
9. Harris,
10. Johnson,
11. Kaufman,
12. Parker,
13. Montgomery,
14. Rockwall,
15. Tarrant,
16. Travis, and
17. Williamson

(B) OBDII emissions testing is performed on all motor vehicles that are:

1. Capable of being powered by gasoline (except motorcycles),
2. Model years 1996 and newer, up to vehicles two (2) years old, and
3. Presented for annual safety inspection, or
4. Required by state law.

(C) Examples of “required by state law” are:

1. Department of Public Safety directs that a vehicle receive an out-of-cycle emissions test,
2. Vehicle requires an emissions test on resale, or

3. Public college or university requires emissions testing prior to issuance of a school parking permit.

(D) OBD emissions inspections will be performed on other vehicles, as the Department of Public Safety shall direct.

(E) The term two (2) years old refers to a vehicle upon the expiration of the initial two-year inspection certificate, or any time the vehicle is presented for inspection or required to be inspected, during the year when the date of manufacture indicated on the manufacturer's federal certification label is greater than two years. In the event the federal certification label is not present or legible, the first month of production of the model year shall be used as the date of manufacture.

### **03.20.00 INSPECTION CERTIFICATES**

(A) The following inspections will be entered into the analyzer at all certified OBDII emissions inspection stations:

1. Safety only,
2. Two-year Safety (new car and light duty trucks),
3. Safety and emissions,
4. Emissions only,
5. Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (commercial inspection for windshield or trailer), and
6. Trailer/Motorcycle.

(B) The Department approved "OBD Safety and Emissions Certificate" will be issued to vehicles passing the safety and OBD emissions inspection, including any 1996 and newer vehicle which defaults to a tailpipe test to complete the inspection, with the following exception: vehicles qualifying under DPS rules for a "unique emissions-test inspection certificate." These vehicles are exempt from the annual safety inspection or not required to be emissions tested at the time of the safety inspection. Specifically, a unique emissions-test only inspection certificate may be issued to:

1. Federal Vehicles (not registered in Texas). Federal government or quasi-governmental agency vehicles that are primarily operated in affected counties, but do not display Texas license plates, are exempt from the annual safety inspection; however, they shall be required to comply with all vehicle emissions requirements.

2. Out-of-State Registered Vehicles (for out-of-state registration purposes only). Vehicles registered in another state, that requires an emissions test for registration purposes in that state, may be emissions tested and issued a unique emissions–test-only inspection certificate.

3. Commercial Motor Vehicles Requiring an Emissions Test. A motor vehicle requiring a Federal Motor Carrier Safety Inspection, that meets the definition of a “designated vehicle,” must pass an emissions inspection and display a unique emissions–test– only inspection certificate on the lower left-hand corner of the windshield, immediately above the registration certificate, prior to receiving a commercial motor vehicle safety inspection certificate. The commercial motor vehicle safety inspection certificate must be issued within **15 calendar days** of the issuance of the unique emissions-test-only inspection certificate. The inspector shall not remove the unique emissions-test-only certificate when the new commercial inspection certificate is issued.

4. College Students Away from Home.

a. A vehicle registered in an affected county, operated by a college student, that was issued a safety only inspection in a non-affected county, and who upon return to the affected county requests an emissions only inspection.

b. A vehicle registered in a non-affected county or out of state, operated by a college student, where the public institution of higher learning is located in affected county and requires vehicles to be emissions tested as a condition to receive a permit to park or drive on the grounds of the institution.

5. A vehicle with valid inspection certificate, either safety only or safety and emissions, directed by DPS to undergo an emissions inspection (usually as a result of DPS on-road emissions testing).

6. Only the fee for the emissions test will be charged for an emissions test performed on the vehicles listed above. All unique emissions-test-only inspection certificates expire at the same time the safety-only inspection certificate expires or the last day of the month indicated on the back of the certificate and year indicated by the hole punch on the unique emissions-test-only inspection certificate, or whichever comes first.

### **03.25.00 OBDII INSPECTION DETAILS**

#### **03.25.01 GENERAL**

The primary method of emissions inspection for gasoline powered vehicles, 1996 and newer model years, is through the use of the vehicle On-Board Diagnostic system.

1. All gasoline powered vehicles model years 1996 and newer, with a gross vehicle weight (GVW) of 8500 lbs. or less, are required to have an OBDII system. The OBDII system on these vehicles, with few exceptions, is emissions testable by means of a Diagnostic Link Connector (DLC).

## 2. Exceptions.

a. Excessive Monitors Not Ready. Certain 1996 through 1998 vehicles, of specific makes and model years chronically have excessive (more than two) **“Not Ready”** monitors. These vehicles will not pass an OBDII emissions inspection and are authorized to default to the applicable alternative tailpipe emissions inspection. Where OBD-only inspection stations are authorized, the station may attempt inspection of these vehicles since they may pass the OBDII test. However, if the vehicle fails for this reason, the test aborts, no fee is charged, and the vehicle driver is directed to a full service station (ASM/OBD/TSI or OBD/TSI) for the appropriate tailpipe test. These problematic vehicles will be listed on a DPS notice required to be displayed on each station’s display board. Contact your local DPS representative with any questions regarding this procedure.

3. Tampering. The OBDII Diagnostic Link Connector (DLC) on all gasoline powered vehicles, model years 1996 and newer with a GVW of 8,500 lbs. or less, must be useable and accessible for the emissions inspection. If obstruction and/or readily apparent tampering prevents the use of the DLC, then the vehicle will fail the inspection – do not use an alternate tailpipe test when tampering is suspected.

4. Vehicles with a GVWR over 8,500 lbs. Gasoline powered vehicles, model years 1996 and newer, with a GVW of 8,501 lbs. and greater, are not required to have an emissions testable OBD system with a DLC. The Heavy Duty Inspection Sequence should be followed for this type of vehicle.

5. Oversized vehicles. Vehicles too large to fit into a standardized inspection bay will be inspected outside the building as close to the analyzer as possible, in an area approved by a Department representative.

### **03.25.02 ORDER OF INSPECTION**

1. Prepare the OBDII analyzer for testing. Gas cap calibration is required every 24 hours.

2. **Scan your inspector Access ID Card or keyboard enter your inspector PIN number, and then select the type of inspection to be performed from the menu on the analyzer.**

3. Follow the screen prompts, answering the questions and entering the required data.

a. The inspector must enter all required information as accurately and correctly as reasonably possible. Incorrect information may cause inaccurate test results.

b. Any vehicle information displayed on the analyzer screen that is incorrect will be corrected by the inspector before continuing to the next screen.

4. Conduct a complete safety inspection, if required.

5. Conduct a complete emissions inspection as prompted by the analyzer. The inspection sequence will be displayed on the analyzer screen and must be followed.

6. MIL illumination check. With ignition key in the “OFF” position, connect the OBD test lead into the diagnostic link connector (DLC).

a. Vehicles with a GVWR over 8,500 are not required to have a DLC. However, if equipped, connect to the DLC. After entering the correct GVWR into the analyzer, select “No Connector” (**if connector is not present**) and complete the Heavy Duty Inspection Sequence.

b. With the key in the “ON” position and the engine off (KOEO), the Malfunction Indicator Lamp (MIL) must illuminate. Depending on the vehicle manufacturer, the MIL will be a dashboard light that displays “Check Engine”, “Service Engine Soon” or the international check engine symbol.

c. With key in the “ON” position and the engine running (KOER), the MIL indicator light must turn off. Refer to Chapter 5 for 1996 Mercedes Benz vehicles.

7. After the MIL illumination check, press “continue” to download data from the vehicle’s OBDII system.

a. If the emissions analyzer fails to communicate with the OBDII system on a vehicle, the test will be aborted and no fee will be charged.

**b. If a vehicle identified by TCEQ and DPS as having a problem with “Excessive Monitors Not Ready” fails for this reason:**

(1) On the OBD-only analyzer, the test will abort and no fee will be charged. Direct the customer to a full service inspection station equipped to perform the applicable tailpipe test (ASM or TSI).

(2) On the full service analyzer (ASM/OBD/TSI or OBD/TSI), the vehicle will fail if the MIL is commanded “ON” and a diagnostic trouble code (DTC) is stored, or if the vehicle does not pass the MIL illumination bulb check. If these conditions are not present, but the vehicle has more than two monitors set to “not ready,” then the analyzer will default to either the ASM or TSI tailpipe test. Ensure the vehicle information has been correctly entered and follow the program prompts.

c. All other vehicles will pass or fail the OBD inspection using standard OBD emissions testing procedures.

8. Gas Cap Testing. Every gasoline-powered vehicle from 2-24 model years old will be checked for presence of a gas cap and then tested by a Department approved “gas cap testing device” to determine if the gas cap is defective. The following vehicles are exempt:

a. Antique vehicles.

- b. Slow-moving vehicles.
- c. Motorcycles.
- d. Vehicles operated exclusively by a fuel other than gasoline.
- e. Vehicles newer than two (2) years old and older than 24 years old.

(1) Inspection Procedure.

- a. Conduct daily calibration check of gas cap testing device.
- b. Check for presence (all gas caps must be present).
- c. Check for correct type of gas cap(s).
- d. Remove gas cap(s) and test using an approved testing device. (Gas cap present but not testable will not be cause for rejection.)
- e. Any gas cap(s) failing the initial test will be tested a second time to verify failure.

(2) Inspect for and reject if:

- a. Vehicle not equipped with required gas cap(s).
- b. Vehicle not equipped with proper type gas cap(s).
- c. Gas cap(s) fails both tests.

9. Emissions test results, MIL status, DTCs, and readiness monitor results are automatically recorded by the analyzer.

10. If the vehicle meets all inspection requirements, the appropriate certificate will be issued. Record the complete certificate number issued (all letters and numbers) in the analyzer. Vehicles 1996 and newer which default to the ASM or TSI test will receive an OBD inspection certificate.

11. The inspector must give a copy of the test results to the motorist. The inspector conducting the test will sign the Vehicle Inspection Record (VIR). Additionally, if the MIL is illuminated, the diagnostic trouble codes and an alert statement based on the reason for failing the OBDII inspection will be printed by the analyzer.

12. Texas Transportation Code, Section 548.053, states “if an inspection discloses the necessity for adjustment, correction, or repair, an inspection station or inspector may not issue an inspection certificate until the adjustment, correction, or repair is made.” If a vehicle fails any other item of inspection, the inspector shall enter the reason for rejection in the space provided on the rejection receipt (VI-7) by typing it in while the rejection receipt is displayed on the

analyzer or by handwriting it in after the rejection receipt is printed by the analyzer. The inspector shall verbally explain the reason for the rejection and mark a large “X” on the back of the certificate currently displayed on the vehicle.

13. A vehicle presented for re-inspection within 15 days, not counting the day of inspection, will be inspected using the re-inspection menu only.

14. The inspector shall provide the motorist whose vehicle has failed, the following:

a. Rejection receipt (VI-7),

b. Emissions test results signed by the inspector conducting the test (VIR), and

c. Vehicle Repair Form (VRF),

### **03.30.00 FEES**

An emissions inspection fee may be charged for those vehicles requiring the vehicle emissions inspection. This fee is in addition to any fee charged for conducting the standard safety or Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations inspection.

1. If the inspection is aborted due to one of the following reasons: loss of oil pressure, loss of coolant or overheating, fuel system leak, excessive engine noise, or other safety problem, and the appropriate reason is checked on the screen, the entire inspection will be recorded as a failure and the station will be allowed to collect the entire inspection fee.

2. If the inspection is aborted due to one of the following reasons: no inspection required, analyzer problem, or other equipment failure, and the appropriate reason is checked on the screen, then the entire inspection will be recorded as an abort and the station will not be allowed to charge or collect any inspection fee.

3. If the OBD inspection is aborted due to non-communications, the inspection station will not be allowed to charge or collect any inspection fee.

### **03.35.00 REPORTS**

The station’s inspection log/report will be printed automatically each Monday morning by the analyzer or may be printed at any time on demand. The inspection station is not required to mail the inspection log/report to DPS; however, the station is required to maintain a copy of the log/report for one year from the date of printing. A vehicle inspection station is not required to maintain duplicate paper records of electronically reported inspections or transactions.

### **03.40.00 ANALYZER LOCKOUTS**

(A) Notify the local Texas Department of Public Safety Vehicle Regulatory Services Division Office for lockouts resulting from:

1. State lockout,
2. State disk drive tamper,
3. TAS cabinet tamper,
4. Maximum inspections without communications to VID contractor, or
5. Exceeds maximum number of OBD inspections (Public OBD-only stations, where permitted).

(B) Notify Gordon-Darby (1-877-434-8467) for lockouts resulting from:

1. Failure to pay communication fees to VID contractor.

(C) Notify the analyzer manufacturer for lockouts resulting from:

1. Disk failure,
2. Hard drive failure,
3. Internal clock failure, and
4. Gas cap calibration failure.

### **03.45.00 APPROVED EQUIPMENT**

The following is a list of currently approved vendors of OBD testing analyzers.

1. ESP:

- Model 10400-57 (ASM/OBD/TSI)
- Model 10400-59 (OBD-Only, Large cabinet)
- Model 10400-60 (OBD-Only, Small cabinet)
- Model 10400-63 (OBD-Only, FCIS cabinet)

2. Snap-On:

- Sun model EEEA110 (ASM/OBD/TSI; any letter designation may follow model number)
- John Bean model EEEA116 (ASM/OBD/TSI; any letter designation may follow model number)
- Model EEEA134A (OBD-Only)

3. Worldwide:

- Model EIS-5000 (ASM/OBD/TSI)

Model EIS-6000

**OBD-only analyzers may only be used with approval of the Department.**

## **TCEQ Vehicle Emissions Inspection Certified Analyzers**

**Houston-Galveston- Brazoria and Dallas-Fort Worth Program Areas**

### **Certified OBD-Only Analyzers**

- **ESP**
  - Model number 10400-60
  - Estimated price: \$7,495
  - Extended service contract prices good from May 1, 2012, to April 30, 2013
  - Extended service contract price: \$786 annually, \$216 quarterly, \$67 monthly
  - Sales information: (888)377-7971
  - Extended service contract information: (800)695-4377
  
- **Worldwide**
  - Model number EIS-6000S with serial numbers beginning with TX
  - Estimated price: \$7,195
  - Extended service contract prices good from May 1, 2012, to April 30, 2013
  - Extended service contract price: \$1,131.00 annually
  - Sales information: (800)832-7664
  - Extended service contract information: (800)832-7664, extension 103
  
- **Snap On Diagnostics:**
  - Model number EEEA134A OBIS currently not being sold
  - Extended service contract prices good from May 1, 2012, to April 30, 2013
  - Extended service contract price: \$1195 annually

**Updated Analyzer Information from TCEQ can be obtained at:**

**<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/mobilesource/vim/testing.html>**

**CHAPTER FOUR  
TWO-SPEED IDLE (TSI)  
INSPECTION PROCEDURE  
EL PASO COUNTY, TRAVIS & WILLIAMSON COUNTIES ONLY**

TSI I/M PROGRAM	<a href="#"><u>04.05.00</u></a>
General	<a href="#"><u>04.05.01</u></a>
TSI Protocol	<a href="#"><u>04.05.02</u></a>
Station Requirements for TSI Testing	<a href="#"><u>04.05.03</u></a>
Testing Data Collection	<a href="#"><u>04.05.04</u></a>
CERTIFIED INSPECTORS	<a href="#"><u>04.10.00</u></a>
TSI TESTING APPLICABILITY	<a href="#"><u>04.15.00</u></a>
INSPECTION CERTIFICATES	<a href="#"><u>04.20.00</u></a>
DETAILS OF INSPECTION	<a href="#"><u>04.25.00</u></a>
VEHICLE EMISSIONS STANDARDS	<a href="#"><u>04.30.00</u></a>
FEES	<a href="#"><u>04.35.00</u></a>
REPORTS	<a href="#"><u>04.40.00</u></a>
ANALYZER LOCKOUTS	<a href="#"><u>04.45.00</u></a>
APPROVED EQUIPMENT VENDORS	<a href="#"><u>04.50.00</u></a>

## **04.05.00 TSI I/M PROGRAM**

### **04.05.01 GENERAL**

The Two-Speed Idle (TSI) emissions test is used in a low enhanced inspection and maintenance (I/M) program. The analyzer certified by TCEQ during the two-speed idle test measures the tailpipe exhaust emissions of a vehicle while the vehicle idles at both high and low speed. This chapter describes the procedures used by certified inspectors in performing the Two-Speed Idle (TSI) vehicle emissions inspection on designated vehicles where the TSI test is required.

### **04.05.02 TSI PROTOCOL**

The TSI analyzer meets BAR '96 two-speed idle specifications and tests vehicles for carbon dioxide in addition to hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide. The TSI test comprises two phases: (1) high speed test (2200 – 2800 RPMs) for the first phase of the emissions test; then, (2) tested at idle (350 – 1200 RPMs) followed by a gas cap integrity test that meets EPA-required specifications and procedures.

### **04.05.03 STATION REQUIREMENTS FOR TSI TESTING**

In addition to all equipment required to perform safety inspections, all inspection stations performing TSI emissions inspections must also have the following:

1. A four-gas analyzer and gas cap tester approved by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) appropriate for the I/M program in that county.
2. Approved calibration gases for the analyzer.
3. A designated telephone line dedicated solely for each analyzer in the program.
4. An adequate supply of printer supplies.
5. All required analyzer manuals.
6. A business arrangement with the Texas Information Management Systems (TIMS) contractor to obtain a telecommunications link to the Vehicle Information Database (VID). If the inspection station fails to pay its data link fees to the contractor, then the analyzer will be locked out from any further inspections until the problem is resolved.

### **04.05.04 TESTING DATA COLLECTION**

All certified emissions inspection stations must report the results of emissions testing, since the collection and reporting of accurate vehicle emissions testing data is of significant importance to the inspection and maintenance (I/M) program.

Each analyzer is allowed a certain number of off-line inspections since occasional telephone line problems may occur. After restoration of the telephone link, the off-line data will be sent to the VID. However, when the analyzer exceeds the off-line inspection limit, the analyzer will be locked out from any further inspections until the problem is resolved. Failure to reestablish the telecommunications link to the VID can result in either suspension or revocation of the inspection station license.

#### **04.10.00 CERTIFIED INSPECTORS**

Only certified inspectors who have completed training with either DPS or DPS approved outside training schools and received a certified vehicle inspector access ID card (scan card) may perform vehicle testing.

#### **04.15.00 TSI TESTING APPLICABILITY**

(A) In the Austin and El Paso I/M program areas, the TSI emissions inspection is used for designated vehicles not originally equipped with OBDII, or as the default tailpipe emissions inspection in cases where an OBDII vehicle is authorized to default to this tailpipe emissions test. This chapter is applicable in the following counties:

1. El Paso,
2. Travis, and
3. Williamson.

(B) TSI emissions testing must be performed on all motor vehicles in the above counties that are:

1. Capable of being powered by gasoline (except motorcycles),
2. Model years 1995 and older, to and including twenty-four (24) years old,
3. Presented for annual safety inspection, or
4. Required by state law.

(C) Examples of additional inspections “required by state law” are:

1. Department of Public Safety directs that a vehicle receive an out-of-cycle emissions test,
2. Vehicle requires an emissions test on resale, or
3. A public college or university requires emissions testing prior to issuance of a school parking permit.

(D) TSI emissions inspections will be performed on other vehicles as the Department of Public Safety shall direct.

#### **04.20.00 INSPECTION CERTIFICATES**

The following inspection certificates will be entered into the analyzer at all TSI emissions certified inspection stations:

1. Safety only
2. Two-year Safety (new car and light duty trucks)
3. Safety and emissions
4. Emissions only
5. Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (commercial inspections for windshield or trailer)
6. Trailer/Motorcycle.

The “Safety and Emissions Certificate” specified by the department for the TSI inspection will be issued to vehicles passing the safety and TSI emissions inspection, with the following exception: vehicles qualifying under DPS rules for a “unique emissions-test-only inspection certificate.” These vehicles are exempt from the annual safety inspection or not required to be emissions tested at the time of the safety inspection. Specifically, a unique emissions-test-only inspection certificate may be issued to:

1. Federal Vehicles (not registered in Texas). Federal government or quasi-governmental agency vehicles that are primarily operated in affected counties, but do not display Texas license plates, are exempt from the annual safety inspection; however, they shall be required to comply with all vehicle emissions requirements.
2. Out-of-State Registered Vehicles (for out-of-state registration purposes only). Vehicles registered in another state that require an emissions test for registration purposes in that state, may be emissions tested and issued a unique emissions-test-only inspection certificate.
3. Commercial Motor Vehicles Requiring an Emission Test. A motor vehicle requiring a Federal Motor Carrier Safety Inspection, that meets the definition of a “designated vehicle,” must pass an emissions inspection and display a unique emissions-test-only inspection certificate on the lower left-hand corner of the windshield, immediately above the registration certificate, prior to receiving a commercial motor vehicle safety inspection certificate. The commercial motor vehicle safety inspection certificate must be issued within **15 calendar days** of the issuance of the unique emissions-test-only inspection certificate. The inspector shall not remove the unique emissions–test-only certificate when the new commercial inspection certificate is issued.
4. College Students Away from Home.

- a. A vehicle registered in an affected county, operated by a college student that was issued a safety-only inspection certificate in a non-affected county, and upon return to the affected county who requests an emissions-only inspection.
  - b. A vehicle registered in a non-affected county or out of state, operated by a college student where the public institution of higher learning is located in affected county and requires vehicles to be emissions tested as a condition to receive a permit to park or drive on the grounds of the institution.
5. A vehicle with valid inspection certificate, either safety only or safety and emissions, directed by DPS to undergo an emissions inspection (usually as a result of DPS on-road emissions testing).
6. Only the fee for the emissions test will be charged for emissions test performed on the vehicles listed above. All unique emissions-test-only inspection certificates expire at the same time the safety-only inspection certificate expires or the last day of the month indicated on the back of the certificate and year indicated by the hole punch on the unique emissions-test-only inspection certificate, or whichever occurs first.

#### **04.25.00 DETAILS OF INSPECTION**

**IMPORTANT: Before testing a BMW, Volvo, Jaguar, or Peugeot with a ZF-4 automatic transmission, refer to Chapter 5 of this manual.**

(A) Order of Inspection:

1. If necessary, prepare the analyzer for testing.
  - a. Leak checks and gas cap calibrations are required every **24 hours**. Leak checks may only be performed by capping the end of the probe. If the analyzer fails the leak check or gas cap calibration test, no inspection may be performed until the problem is repaired.
  - b. Gas calibrations are required every **72 hours**.
2. **Scan your inspector Access ID Card or keyboard enter your inspector PIN number, and then select the type of inspection to be performed.**
3. Select type of inspection performed from menu on analyzer.
4. Follow the screen prompts, answering questions and entering the required data.
  - a. The inspector must enter all required information as accurately and correctly as reasonably possible. Incorrect information may cause inaccurate results.

b. Any vehicle information displayed on the analyzer screen that is incorrect will be corrected by the inspector before continuing to the next screen.

5. Conduct a complete safety inspection, if required.

6. Conduct a complete emissions inspection as prompted by the analyzer. The inspection sequence will be displayed on the analyzer screen and must be followed. Vehicles that are too large to fit into a standardized inspection bay will be inspected outside the building as close to the analyzer as possible, in an area approved by a Department representative.

7. The exhaust probe must be inserted in the vehicle tailpipe. If the vehicle has dual exhausts, insert probes into both pipes.

8. The analyzer must display a RPM reading for the vehicle being tested. The high-speed reading must be between 2200 RPM and 2800 RPM. The low-speed reading must be between 350 RPM and 1200 RPM. Authority to bypass the RPM equipment may be granted only by the DPS or as required by the analyzer. Follow the screen prompts to conduct a complete TSI emission inspection.

9. Gas Cap Testing. Every gasoline-powered vehicle from 2-24 model years old will be checked for presence of a gas cap and then tested by a Department approved "gas cap testing device" to determine if the gas cap is defective. The following vehicles are exempt:

a. Antique vehicles.

b. Slow-moving vehicles.

c. Motorcycles.

d. Vehicles operated exclusively by a fuel other than gasoline.

e. Vehicles newer than two (2) years old and older than 24 years old.

(1) Inspection Procedure.

a. Conduct daily calibration check of gas cap testing device.

b. Check for presence (all gas caps must be present).

c. Check for correct type of gas cap(s).

d. Remove gas cap(s) and test using an approved testing device. (Gas cap present but not testable will not be cause for rejection.)

e. Any gas cap(s) failing the initial test will be tested a second time to verify failure.

(2) Inspect for and reject if:

- a. Vehicle not equipped with required gas cap(s).
- b. Vehicle not equipped with proper type gas cap(s).
- c. Gas cap(s) fails both tests.

10. Emissions test results are automatically recorded as pass/fail by the analyzer.

11. If the vehicle passes the required inspection, the analyzer will prompt the inspector to enter the appropriate and complete certificate number (all letters and numbers), after which the appropriate certificate will be issued.

12. The inspector must give a copy of the test results to the motorist. The certified inspector conducting the test will sign the Vehicle Inspection Record (VIR).

13. Texas Transportation Code, Section 548.053, states “if an inspection discloses the necessity for adjustment, correction, or repair, an inspection station or inspector may not issue an inspection certificate until the adjustment, correction, or repair is made.” If a vehicle fails any item of inspection, the inspector shall enter the reason for rejection in the space provided on the rejection receipt (VI-7) by typing it in while the rejection receipt is displayed on the analyzer or by handwriting it in after the rejection receipt is printed by the analyzer. The inspector shall verbally explain the reason for rejection and mark a large “X” on the back of the certificate currently displayed on the vehicle.

14. A vehicle presented for re-inspection within 15 days, not counting the day of inspection, will be inspected using the re-inspection menu only.

15. The inspector shall provide the motorist whose vehicle has failed the following:

- a. Rejection receipt (VI-7),
- b. Test results (VIR),
- c. Vehicle Repair Form (VRF),

#### **04.30.00 VEHICLE EMISSIONS STANDARDS**

Light Duty Gasoline Powered Vehicles Less than 8,501 GVW Preconditioned Test

CO (%)	HC (ppm)
1.2	220

Heavy Duty Gasoline Powered Vehicles 8,501 or More GVW Preconditioned Test

CO (%)	HC (ppm)
3.0	300

#### **04.35.00 FEES**

An emissions testing fee may be charged for those vehicles requiring the vehicle emissions inspection. This fee is in addition to any fee charged for conducting the standard safety or Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations inspection.

#### **04.40.00 REPORTS**

The station inspection log/report will be printed automatically each Monday morning by the analyzer or may be printed any time on demand. The inspection station is not required to mail the inspection log/report to DPS; however, the station is required to maintain a copy of the log/report for one year from the date of printing. A vehicle inspection station is not required to maintain duplicate paper records of electronically reported inspections or transactions.

#### **04.45.00 ANALYZER LOCKOUTS**

(A) Notify the local Texas Department of Public Safety Regulatory Services Division Office for lockouts resulting from:

1. State lockout,
2. State disk drive tamper,
3. TAS cabinet tamper, and
4. Maximum test without communication.

(B) Notify Gordon-Darby (1-877-434-8467) for lockouts resulting from:

1. Failure to pay communication fee to VID contractor.

(C) Notify the analyzer manufacturer for lockouts resulting from:

1. Disk failure,
2. Gas calibration failure,
3. Hard drive failure,
4. Gas analyzer failure,

5. Leak check failure, or
6. Internal clock failure or warm-up failure.

#### **04.50.00 APPROVED EQUIPMENT VENDORS**

The following is a list of currently approved analyzer vendors where TSI is the primary tailpipe emissions test:

El Paso, Travis and Williamson counties:

- a. ESP  
Model 10400-78 (OBD/TSI)
- b. Worldwide  
Model EIS 5400

### **TCEQ Vehicle Emissions Inspection Certified Analyzers**

#### **Travis, Williamson, and El Paso Program Areas**

##### **Certified TSI Analyzers**

- **ESP**
  - Model number ESP10400-78
  - Estimated price: \$15,995
  - Extended service contract price good from May 1, 2012, to April 30, 2013
  - Full coverage: analyzer and ZAG - \$2,230 annually, \$613 quarterly, \$186 monthly
  - Basic coverage: analyzer only, no ZAG coverage - \$1,679 annually, \$462 quarterly, \$141 monthly
  - Sales information: (888)377-7971
  - Extended service contract information: (800)695-4377
- **Worldwide**
  - Model number EIS-5400S, EIS-6400 with serial numbers beginning with TX
  - Estimated price: \$15,495
  - Extended service contract price good from May 1, 2012, to April 30, 2013
  - Extended service contract price: \$2,447.00 annually, \$213.00 monthly
  - Sales information: (800)832-7664
  - Extended service contract information: (800)832-7664 extension 103

**Updated Analyzer Information from TCEQ can be obtained at:**

**<http://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/mobilesource/vim/testing.html>**

**CHAPTER FIVE  
REFERENCE SECTION**

TSI TEST SEQUENCE - BMW/PEUGEOT/VOLVO/JAGUAR (ZF AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSIONS)	05.05.00
1996 MERCEDES BENZ OBDII INSPECTION PROCEDURES	05.10.00
VEHICLE REPAIR FORM (VIE-7)	05.15.00
FEE CHARTS	
Dallas/Ft Worth and Houston/Galveston Areas (VIE-31A)	05.20.00
El Paso County (VIE-31C)	05.25.00
Travis and Williamson Counties (VIE-31D)	05.30.00
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES	05.35.00
GLOSSARY OF TERMS	05.40.00

### **05.05.00 TSI TEST SEQUENCE - BMW/PEUGEOT/VOLVO/JAGUAR (ZF AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSIONS)**

Given the problems with the “ZF” automatic transmission, DPS prefers that the affected vehicles be tested at their dealerships. Accordingly, if the inspector enters an “A” (for automatic) for the transmission type, and if the vehicle type and the vehicle make, model, and model year match BMW/PEUGEOT/VOLVO/JAGUAR criteria, the TX 96 (TSI) analyzer displays the following message:

BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF TRANSMISSION DAMAGE TO THIS VEHICLE, DPS PREFERS THAT IT BE INSPECTED AT ITS DEALERSHIP. IF YOU STILL WISH TO PERFORM THE INSPECTION, YOU MAY DO SO AT YOUR OWN RISK. PRESS “ENTER” TO CONTINUE. IF NOT, PRESS “ESC” TO ABORT THE TEST. (ENTER ABORT CODE 6)

If the inspector chooses to continue testing this vehicle, the following message will be displayed when beginning the test sequence:

BEFORE BEGINNING THE EMISSIONS TEST, MAKE SURE THE ENGINE IS AT NORMAL OPERATING TEMPERATURE. IF NOT, THE VEHICLE SHOULD BE DRIVEN UNTIL IT IS. DO NOT WARM THE ENGINE BY RAISING THE RPM ABOVE IDLE WHILE THE TRANSMISSION IS IN PARK OR NEUTRAL.

AFTER THE ENGINE REACHES NORMAL OPERATING TEMPERATURE, PUT THE TRANSMISSION IN PARK AND TURN THE ENGINE OFF FOR 30 SECONDS. RESTART THE ENGINE. AFTER THE ENGINE IS RUNNING, DO NOT MOVE THE GEAR SHIFT SELECTOR THROUGH THE FORWARD OR REVERSE GEARS BEFORE OR DURING THE TEST SEQUENCE. DO NOT EXCEED 2000 RPM.

All 1984-87 BMWs with automatic transmissions, 1983-88 Volvo 740s with automatic transmissions, 1984-89 Jaguar XJSs, and 1986-92 Peugeot 505s with automatic transmissions shall be tested using this test sequence or the latest test sequence supplied by DPS.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY REGULATORY SERVICES DIVISION OFFICE IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS REGARDING ZF AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSIONS.

### **05.10.00 1996 MERCEDES BENZ OBDII INSPECTION PROCEDURES**

Mercedes Benz advised that 1996 Mercedes Benz models: C220, C280, E320, S320, SL320, and C36AMG have the following problem:

When the analyzer’s diagnostic link cord is connected to the vehicle’s diagnostic link connector (DLC - OBDII port), the check engine light will stay on causing the vehicle to fail. To avoid this false failure, use the following procedure.

When asked the second bulb check question (Did the MIL light turn off) choose “YES THE MIL TURNED OFF”

This procedure is to be used **ONLY** on 1996 Mercedes Benz models C220, C280, E320, S320, SL320, and C36AMG.

If you have any questions, contact your DPS representative.



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
AirCheckTexas EMISSIONS PROGRAM



# NOTICE

INSPECTION FEES IN THE DALLAS/FT. WORTH AND HOUSTON/GALVESTON AREAS

Effective 6-1-2007

GASOLINE POWERED MOTOR VEHICLES 2-24 YEARS OLD	..... (up to) \$39.75
NEW PASSENGER CARS OR NEW LIGHT DUTY TRUCKS UNDER 2,000 LBS RATED CARRYING CAPACITY—(2 YEAR CERTIFICATE)	..... \$23.75
OTHER GASOLINE POWERED VEHICLES	..... \$14.50
EMISSIONS TEST ONLY	..... \$27.25
VEHICLE REQUIRING F.M.C.S.R. ANNUAL INSPECTION	..... \$62.00
TRAILERS (NOT REQUIRING F.M.C.S.R. INSPECTION)	..... \$14.50
MOTORCYCLES	..... \$14.50
MOPEDS	..... \$7.75
IDENTIFICATION CERTIFICATE (VI-30/VI-30A)	..... \$1.00

**ADJUSTMENTS AND REPAIRS WILL BE IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE FEES**

05.25.00 EL PASO AREA FEE CHART

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
AirCheckTexas EMISSIONS PROGRAM



**NOTICE**

INSPECTION FEES IN EL PASO COUNTY

Effective 6-1-2007

GASOLINE POWERED MOTOR VEHICLES 2-24 YEARS OLD .....	\$26.75
NEW PASSENGER CARS OR NEW LIGHT DUTY TRUCKS UNDER 2,000 LBS RATED CARRYING CAPACITY—(2 YEAR CERTIFICATE) .....	\$23.75
OTHER GASOLINE POWERED VEHICLES .....	\$14.50
EMISSIONS TEST ONLY .....	\$14.25
VEHICLE REQUIRING F.M.C.S.R. ANNUAL INSPECTION .....	\$62.00
TRAILERS (NOT REQUIRING F.M.C.S.R. INSPECTION) .....	\$14.50
MOTORCYCLES .....	\$14.50
MOPEDS .....	\$7.75
IDENTIFICATION CERTIFICATE (VI-30/VI-30A) .....	\$1.00

**ADJUSTMENTS AND REPAIRS WILL BE IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE FEES**

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
 AirCheckTexas EMISSIONS PROGRAM



# NOTICE

INSPECTION FEES IN TRAVIS AND WILLIAMSON COUNTIES

Effective 6-1-2007

GASOLINE POWERED MOTOR VEHICLES 2-24 YEARS OLD .....	\$28.75
NEW PASSENGER CARS OR NEW LIGHT DUTY TRUCKS UNDER 2,000 LBS RATED CARRYING CAPACITY—(2 YEAR CERTIFICATE) .....	\$23.75
OTHER GASOLINE POWERED VEHICLES .....	\$14.50
EMISSIONS TEST ONLY .....	\$16.25
VEHICLE REQUIRING F.M.C.S.R. ANNUAL INSPECTION .....	\$62.00
TRAILERS (NOT REQUIRING F.M.C.S.R. INSPECTION) .....	\$14.50
MOTORCYCLES .....	\$14.50
MOPEDS .....	\$7.75
IDENTIFICATION CERTIFICATE (VI-30/VI-30A) .....	\$1.00

ADJUSTMENTS AND REPAIRS WILL BE IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE FEES

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**TITLE 37** PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

**PART 1** TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

**CHAPTER 23** VEHICLE INSPECTION

**SUBCHAPTER E** VEHICLE EMISSIONS INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

**RULE §23.51** **Vehicle Emissions Inspection Requirements**

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(a) In affected counties, to be certified by the department as a vehicle inspection station, the station must be certified by the department to perform vehicle emissions testing. This provision does not apply to vehicle inspection stations certified by the department as stations endorsed only to issue one or more of the following inspection certificates: trailer certificates, motorcycle certificates, commercial motor vehicle windshield certificates, or commercial trailer certificates.

(b) A vehicle inspection station in a county not designated as an affected county shall not inspect a designated vehicle unless the vehicle inspection station is certified by the department to perform emissions testing, or unless the motorist presenting the vehicle signs an affidavit on a form provided by the department stating the vehicle is exempted from emissions testing. The affidavit will be held by the vehicle inspection station for collection by the department. Under the exceptions outlined in paragraphs (1) - (3) of this subsection, a vehicle registered in an affected county may receive a safety inspection at a vehicle inspection station in a non-affected county.

(1) The vehicle is not a designated vehicle because it has not and will not be primarily operated in an affected county. This exception includes the subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph:

(A) Company fleet vehicles owned by business entities registered at a central office located in an affected county but operated from branch offices and locations in non-affected counties on a permanent basis.

(B) Hunting and recreational vehicles registered to the owner in an affected area, but permanently maintained on a hunting property or vacation home site in a non-affected county.

(2) The vehicle no longer qualifies as a designated vehicle because it no longer and will be no longer primarily operated in an affected county. For example, the vehicle registration indicates it is registered in an affected county, but the owner has moved, does not currently reside in, nor will primarily operate the vehicle in an affected county.

(3) The vehicle is registered in an affected county and is primarily operated in a non-affected county, but will not return to an affected county prior to the expiration of the current inspection certificate. Under this exception the vehicle will be reinspected at a vehicle inspection station certified to do vehicle emissions testing immediately upon return to an affected county. Examples of this exception include:

(A) Vehicles operated by students enrolled at learning institutions.

(B) Vehicles operated by persons during extended vacations.

(C) Vehicles operated by persons on extended out of county business.

(c) All designated vehicles must be emissions tested at the time of and as a part of the designated vehicle's annual vehicle safety inspection at a vehicle inspection station certified by the department to perform vehicle emissions testing. The exceptions outlined in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection apply to this provision.

(1) Commercial motor vehicles, as defined by Texas Transportation Code, §548.001, meeting the description of "designated vehicle" provided in this section. Designated commercial motor vehicles must be emissions tested at a vehicle inspection station certified by the department to perform vehicle emissions testing and must be issued an emissions test only inspection certificate, as authorized by Texas Transportation Code, §548.251, affixed to the lower left-hand corner of the windshield of the vehicle, immediately above the registration sticker, prior to receiving a commercial motor vehicle safety inspection certificate pursuant to Texas Transportation

Code, Chapter 548. The emissions test only inspection certificate must be issued within 15 calendar days prior to the issuance of the commercial motor vehicle safety inspection certificate and will expire at the same time the newly issued commercial motor vehicle safety inspection certificate expires.

(2) Vehicles presented for inspection by motorists in counties not designated as affected counties meeting other exceptions listed in this section.

(d) A vehicle with a currently valid safety inspection certificate presented for an "Emissions Test on Resale" inspection shall receive an emissions test. The owner or selling dealer may choose one of two options:

(1) a complete safety and emissions test and receipt of a new inspection certificate; or

(2) an emissions test and receipt of the emissions test only inspection certificate affixed to the lower left-hand corner of the windshield of the vehicle, immediately above the registration sticker. The emissions test only inspection certificate will expire at the same time as the safety inspection certificate currently displayed on the vehicle at the time the emissions test-only certificate is issued.

(e) Any vehicle not listed as an exempt vehicle that is capable of being powered by gasoline, from two years old up to and including 24 years old, presented for the annual vehicle safety inspection in affected counties will be presumed to be a designated vehicle and will be emissions tested as a part of the annual vehicle safety inspection. Emissions testing will be conducted as follows:

(1) In all affected counties, except Travis, Williamson, and El Paso counties:

(A) All 1996 model year and newer designated vehicles, which are equipped with an onboard diagnostic (OBD) system, will be emission tested using approved OBD inspection and maintenance (I/M) test equipment.

(B) All 1995 model year and older designated vehicles will be emission tested using the acceleration simulation mode (ASM-2) I/M test equipment.

(C) Vehicles which cannot be tested using the prescribed emission testing equipment will be tested using the default methods described within this subparagraph, only as prompted by the emissions testing analyzer or as approved by the department. OBD vehicles will be tested using ASM-2 test equipment. If the vehicle cannot be tested on ASM-2 test equipment (four-wheel drive and unique transmissions), then the vehicle will be tested using approved two-speed idle (TSI) I/M test equipment.

(2) This paragraph applies to all designated vehicles in Travis, Williamson and El Paso counties.

(A) All 1996 model year and newer designated vehicles, which are equipped with an onboard diagnostic system, will be emission tested using approved OBD I/M test equipment.

(B) All 1995 model year and older designated vehicles will be emissions tested using TSI I/M test equipment.

(C) Vehicles which cannot be tested using the prescribed emission testing equipment will be tested using the following default method, only as prompted by the emissions testing analyzer or as approved by the department. OBD vehicles will be tested using TSI I/M test equipment.

(f) Vehicles registered in affected counties will be identified by a distinguishing validation registration sticker or a registration sticker imprinted with the name of the county, as determined by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

(g) Vehicles inspected under the vehicle emissions testing program and found to meet the requirements of the program in addition to all other vehicle safety inspection requirements will be approved by the certified inspector, who will thereafter affix to the windshield a unique emissions inspection certificate pursuant to Texas Transportation Code, §548.251. The only valid inspection certificate for designated vehicles shall be a unique emissions inspection certificate issued by the department, unless otherwise provided in this chapter.

(h) The department shall perform challenge tests to provide for the reinspection of a motor vehicle at the option of the owner of the vehicle as a quality control measure of the emissions testing program. A motorist whose vehicle has failed an emissions test may request a free challenge test through the department within 15 calendar days.

(i) Federal and state governmental or quasi-governmental agency vehicles that are primarily operated in affected counties that fall outside the normal registration or inspection process shall be required to comply with all vehicle emissions I/M requirements contained in the Texas I/M State Implementation Plan (SIP).

(j) Any motorist in an affected county whose designated vehicle has been issued an emissions related recall notice shall furnish proof of compliance with the recall notice prior to having their vehicle emissions tested at the next testing cycle. As proof of compliance, the motorist may present a written statement from the dealership

or leasing agency indicating the emissions repairs have been completed.

(k) Inspection certificates previously issued in a newly affected county shall be valid and remain in effect until the expiration date thereof.

(l) An emissions only test inspection certificate expires at the same time the annual vehicle safety inspection certificate it relates to expires.

(m) The department may perform quarterly equipment and/or gas audits on all vehicle emissions analyzers used to perform vehicle emissions tests. If a vehicle emissions analyzer fails the calibration process during the gas audit, the department may cause the appropriate vehicle inspection station to cease vehicle emissions testing with the failing emissions analyzer until all necessary corrections are made and the vehicle emissions analyzer passes the calibration process.

(n) Pursuant to the Texas I/M SIP, the department may administer and monitor a follow up loaded mode I/M test on at least 0.1% of the vehicles subject to vehicle emissions testing in a given year to evaluate the mass emissions test data as required in Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, §51.353(c)(3).

(o) Vehicle owners receiving a notice from the department requiring an emission test shall receive an out-of-cycle test, if the vehicle already has a valid safety and emission inspection certificate. This test will be conducted in accordance with the terms of the department's notice. The results of this verification emissions inspection shall be reported (online) to the Texas information management system vehicle identification database (VID). Vehicles identified to be tested by the notice will receive the prescribed test regardless of the county of registration and whether the vehicle has a valid safety inspection certificate or a valid safety and emissions inspection certificate. If the vehicle has a valid safety inspection certificate or a valid safety and emissions inspection certificate, the owner may choose one of two options:

(1) a complete safety and emissions test and receipt of a new inspection certificate; or

(2) an emissions test and receipt of the emissions test only inspection certificate affixed to the lower left-hand corner of the windshield of the vehicle, immediately above the registration sticker. The emissions test only inspection certificate will expire at the same time as the safety inspection certificate displayed on the vehicle at the time the unique emissions test-only certificate is issued.

(p) Pursuant to Texas Education Code, §51.207, public institutions of higher education located in affected counties may require vehicles to be emissions tested as a condition to receive a permit to park or drive on the grounds of the institution, including vehicles registered out of state.

(1) Vehicles presented under this subsection shall receive an emissions inspection and be issued a unique emissions test-only inspection certificate which will be affixed to the lower left hand corner of the windshield of the vehicle. Since this inspection certificate is not dated:

(A) For vehicles registered in this state from counties without an emissions testing program, the emissions test only inspection certificate will expire at the same time as the safety inspection certificate displayed on the vehicle at the time the emissions test only certificate is issued.

(B) For vehicles registered in another state, the emissions test only inspection certificate will expire on the twelfth month after the month indicated on the date of the vehicle inspection report (VIR) generated by the emissions inspection. Under no circumstances is the vehicle inspection station authorized to remove an out-of-state inspection and/or registration certificate, including safety, emissions, or a combination of any of the aforementioned.

(2) The vehicle inspector shall notify the operator of a vehicle presented for an emissions inspection under this subsection of the requirement to retain the VIR as proof of emissions testing under Texas Education Code, §51.207.

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**Source Note:** The provisions of this §23.51 adopted to be effective March 13, 2013, 38 TexReg 1701

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<a href="#">TITLE 37</a>	PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS
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<a href="#">CHAPTER 23</a>	VEHICLE INSPECTION
<a href="#">SUBCHAPTER E</a>	VEHICLE EMISSIONS INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM
<b>RULE §23.52</b>	<b>Emissions Testing Waiver</b>

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(a) The department may issue an emissions testing waiver to any vehicle that passes all requirements of the standard safety inspection portion of the annual vehicle safety inspection and meets the established criteria for a particular waiver. An emissions testing waiver defers the need for full compliance with vehicle emissions standards of the vehicle emissions inspection and maintenance (I/M) program for a specified period of time after a vehicle fails an emissions test. The motorist may apply once each testing cycle for the waiver.

(b) Qualified emissions related repairs are those repairs to emissions control components, including diagnosis, parts and labor, which count toward a low mileage waiver or individual vehicle waiver. To be considered qualified emissions related repairs, the repairs:

(1) Must be directly applicable to the cause for the emissions test failure.

(2) Must be performed after the initial emissions test or have been performed within 60 days prior to the initial emissions test.

(3) Must not be tampering related repairs.

(4) Must not be covered by any available warranty coverage unless the warranty remedy has been denied in writing by the manufacturer or authorized dealer.

(5) Must be performed by a recognized emissions repair technician of Texas at a recognized emissions repair facility of Texas to include the labor cost and/or diagnostic costs. If repairs are not performed by a recognized emissions repair technician of Texas at a recognized emissions repair facility of Texas, only the purchase price of parts applicable to the emissions test failure qualify as a repair expenditure for the low mileage waiver or individual vehicle waiver.

(c) Low mileage waiver.

(1) A vehicle may be eligible for a low mileage waiver provided it:

(A) has failed both its initial emissions inspection and retest;

(B) has incurred qualified emissions-related repairs, as defined in paragraph (2) of this subsection, costing \$100 or more;

(C) has been driven less than 5,000 miles in the previous inspection cycle; and

(D) is reasonably expected to be driven fewer than 5,000 miles before the next inspection is required.

(2) The requirements listed in subparagraphs (A) - (C) of this paragraph must be met to receive a low mileage waiver:

(A) The vehicle must pass a visual inspection performed by a department representative to ensure the emissions repairs claimed have actually been performed.

(B) The diagnosis, parts, and labor receipts for the qualified emissions related repairs must be presented to the department and support that the emissions repairs claimed have actually been performed.

(C) The valid retest vehicle inspection report (VIR) and valid vehicle repair form (VRF) for the applicant vehicle must be presented to the department. If labor and/or diagnostic charges are being claimed towards the low mileage waiver amount, the VRF shall be completed by a recognized emissions repair technician of Texas.

(d) Individual vehicle waiver.

(1) If a vehicle has failed an emissions test required by the vehicle emissions I/M program, an applicant may petition the designated representative of the department for an individual vehicle waiver in order for the vehicle to receive a state inspection certificate. The applicant must demonstrate that all reasonable measures, such as diagnostics, repairs, or installation of replacement parts, have been implemented, but have failed to bring the vehicle into compliance with the program. The department will review the measures taken by the applicant to

ensure they have been performed, further measures would be economically unfeasible during this inspection cycle and a waiver will result in a minimal impact on air quality. A vehicle may be eligible for an individual vehicle waiver provided:

(A) It failed both the initial emissions inspection and retest.

(B) The motorist has incurred qualified emissions related repairs, equal to or in excess of the maximum reasonable repair expenditure amounts, as defined in this section for the county in which the vehicle is registered.

(2) The applicable maximum reasonable repair expenditure amounts are:

(A) in affected counties, except El Paso county--\$600; and

(B) in El Paso county--\$450.

(3) The individual vehicle waiver shall be valid through the end of the twelfth month from the date of issuance. Motorists must apply for the individual vehicle waiver each testing cycle.

(4) The conditions listed in subparagraphs (A) - (C) of this paragraph must be met to receive an individual vehicle waiver:

(A) The vehicle must pass a visual inspection performed by a department representative to ensure the emissions repairs being claimed have actually been performed.

(B) The diagnosis, parts, and labor receipts for the qualified emissions related repairs must be presented to the department and support that the emissions repairs being claimed have been performed.

(C) The valid retest vehicle inspection report (VIR) and valid vehicle repair form (VRF) for the applicant vehicle must be presented to the department. If labor and/or diagnostic charges are being claimed towards the individual vehicle waiver, the VRF shall be completed by a recognized emissions repair technician of Texas.

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**Source Note:** The provisions of this §23.52 adopted to be effective March 13, 2013, 38 TexReg 1701

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<a href="#">SUBCHAPTER E</a>	VEHICLE EMISSIONS INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM
<b>RULE §23.53</b>	<b>Time Extensions</b>

---

(a) The department may issue a time extension to any vehicle that passes all requirements of the standard safety inspection portion of the annual vehicle safety inspection and meets the established criteria for a particular time extension. A time extension defers the need for full compliance with vehicle emissions standards of the vehicle emissions inspection and maintenance (I/M) program for a specified period of time after a vehicle fails an emissions test. The motorist may apply once each testing cycle for the parts availability time extension. The motorist may apply every other testing cycle for the low income time extension.

(b) Low income time extension.

(1) The applicant must provide proof in writing, in a form approved by the department, that:

(A) The vehicle failed the initial emissions inspection test; proof shall be in the form of the original failed vehicle inspection report (VIR).

(B) The vehicle has not been granted a low income time extension in the previous testing cycle.

(C) The applicant is the owner of the vehicle that is the subject of the low income time extension.

(D) The applicant receives financial assistance from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission or the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services due to indigence or the applicant's adjusted gross income (if the applicant is married, the applicant's adjusted gross income is equal to the applicant's adjusted gross income plus the applicant's spouse's adjusted gross income) is at or below the current federal poverty level as published by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Secretary, in the Federal Register; proof shall be in the form of a federal income tax return or other documentation approved by the department that the applicant certifies as true and correct.

(2) After a vehicle receives an initial low income time extension, the vehicle must pass an emissions test prior to receiving another low income time extension.

(c) Parts availability time extension.

(1) The applicant must demonstrate to the department that:

(A) Reasonable attempts were made to locate necessary emissions control parts by retail or wholesale parts suppliers.

(B) Emissions related repairs cannot be completed before the expiration of the safety inspection certificate, or before the 30 day period following an out of cycle inspection because the repairs require an uncommon part.

(2) The applicant shall provide to the department:

(A) an original VIR indicating the vehicle failed the emissions test; and

(B) an invoice, receipt, or original itemized document indicating the uncommon part(s) ordered by: name; description; catalog number; order number; source of part(s), including name, address, and phone number of parts distributor; and expected delivery and installation date(s). The original itemized document must be prepared by a recognized emissions repair technician of Texas before a parts availability time extension can be issued.

(3) A parts availability time extension is not allowed for tampering related repairs.

(4) If the vehicle does not pass an emissions retest prior to the expiration of the parts availability time extension, the applicant must provide to the department adequate documentation that one of the conditions listed in subparagraph (A) or (B) of this paragraph exists:

(A) the motorist qualifies for a low mileage waiver, low income time extension or individual vehicle waiver;  
or

(B) the motor vehicle will no longer be operated in the affected county.

(5) A vehicle that receives a parts availability time extension in one testing cycle must have the vehicle repaired and retested prior to the expiration of such extension, or must qualify for another type of waiver or time extension to be eligible for a parts availability time extension in the subsequent testing cycle.

(6) The length of a parts availability time extension shall depend upon expected delivery and installation date(s) of the uncommon part(s) as determined by the department representative on a case by case basis. Parts availability time extensions will be issued for either 30, 60, or 90 days.

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**Source Note:** The provisions of this §23.53 adopted to be effective March 13, 2013, 38 TexReg 1701

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<b><u>SUBCHAPTER E</u></b>	VEHICLE EMISSIONS INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM
<b>RULE §23.54</b>	<b>Recognized Emissions Repair Technicians and Facilities</b>

---

- (a) The department may recognize automotive repair technicians who meet the qualifications detailed in this subsection:
- (1) have a minimum of three years full time automotive repair service experience;
  - (2) possess current certification in the areas listed in subparagraphs (A) - (D) of this paragraph based on the tests offered by the National Institute of Automotive Service Excellence (ASE):
    - (A) Engine Repair (ASE Test A1);
    - (B) Electrical/Electronic Systems (ASE Test A6);
    - (C) Engine Performance (ASE Test A8); and
    - (D) Advanced Engine Performance Specialist (ASE Test L1); and
  - (3) must be employed by a recognized emissions repair facility of Texas.
- (b) A recognized emissions repair technician of Texas must perform the duties detailed in this subsection:
- (1) complete and certify the vehicle repair form(s) (VRF); and
  - (2) notify the department in writing within 14 days of changes in the technician's ASE testing status.
- (c) Failure to comply with this chapter or failure to meet the qualifications set out in this section may result in the withdrawal of the department's recognition of the technician.
- (d) To be recognized by the department as a recognized emissions repair facility of Texas, the facility must:
- (1) employ at least one full-time recognized emissions repair technician of Texas; and
  - (2) possess the following operational testing equipment, whether single or multi-functional:
    - (A) ammeter;
    - (B) compression tester;
    - (C) cooling system tester;
    - (D) dwell meter;
    - (E) engine analyzer;
    - (F) five gas exhaust analyzer (which can perform diagnostic repair) for at least hydrocarbon (HC), carbon monoxide (CO), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), and oxides of nitrogen (NOX), except for those in Travis, Williamson, and El Paso counties which require a four gas exhaust analyzer (which can perform diagnostic repair for at least hydrocarbon (HC), carbon monoxide (CO), and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>));
    - (G) fuel pressure/pressure drop tester;
    - (H) ohmmeter;
    - (I) repair reference information;
    - (J) scan tool or onboard diagnostic (OBDII) capable testing equipment;
    - (K) tachometer;
    - (L) timing light;
    - (M) vacuum/pressure gauge;
    - (N) vacuum pump; and
    - (O) volt meter.
- (e) A recognized emissions repair facility of Texas shall:
- (1) notify the department in writing within 14 days of changes in the Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) testing status, employment status of a technician at a facility, or the facility's equipment functionality status; and
  - (2) upon application for recognition by the department, agree in writing to maintain compliance with the qualifications enumerated in subsection (a) of this section, to maintain recognition by the department.

(f) Failure to comply with this chapter or to meet the qualifications set in this section may result in the withdrawal of the department's recognition of the facility.

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**Source Note:** The provisions of this §23.54 adopted to be effective March 13, 2013, 38 TexReg 1701

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**TITLE 37** PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

**PART 1** TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

**CHAPTER 23** VEHICLE INSPECTION

**SUBCHAPTER E** VEHICLE EMISSIONS INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

**RULE §23.55** **Certified Emissions Inspection Station and Inspector Requirements**

---

(a) To be certified by the department as an emissions inspection station for purposes of the emissions inspection and maintenance (I/M) program, the station must:

(1) be certified by the department as an official vehicle inspection station;

(2) comply with this chapter, the DPS Operations Manual and Training Guide for Vehicle Inspection Stations and Certified Inspectors, Texas Transportation Code, Chapter 547 and Chapter 548, and regulations of the department;

(3) complete all applicable forms and reports as required by the department;

(4) purchase or lease emissions testing equipment currently certified by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to emissions test vehicles and maintain existing emissions testing equipment to meet the certification requirements of the TCEQ;

(5) have a dedicated data transmission line for each vehicle emissions analyzer to be used to perform vehicle emissions tests; and

(6) enter into and maintain a business arrangement with the Texas Information Management System contractor to obtain a telecommunications link to the Texas Information Management System vehicle identification database (VID) for each vehicle emissions analyzer to be used to inspect vehicles as described in the Texas I/M State Implementation Plan (SIP).

(b) All public certified emissions inspection stations in affected counties, excluding Travis, Williamson and El Paso counties shall offer both the acceleration simulated mode (ASM-2) test and the onboard diagnostic (OBD) test. Certified emissions inspection stations in these affected counties desiring to offer OBD only emission testing to the public must request a waiver as low volume emissions inspection station from a department regional manager, as provided in §23.56 of this title (relating to Waiver for Low Volume Emissions Inspection Stations). All public certified emissions inspection stations in Travis, Williamson and El Paso counties must offer both the OBD and two speed idle (TSI) test.

(c) The fee for an emissions test must provide for one free retest for each failed initial emissions inspection, provided that the motorist has the retest performed at the same vehicle inspection station where the vehicle originally failed and the retest is conducted within 15 calendar days of the initial emissions test, not including the date of the initial emissions test.

(d) To qualify as a certified emissions inspector, an applicant must:

(1) be certified by the department as an official vehicle inspector;

(2) complete the training required for the vehicle emissions inspection program and receive the department's current approved inspector's certification for such training;

(3) comply with the DPS Rules and Regulations Manual for Official Vehicle Inspection Stations and Certified Inspectors, this chapter, and other applicable rules, regulations and notices of the department; and

(4) complete all applicable forms and reports as required by the department.

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**Source Note:** The provisions of this §23.55 adopted to be effective March 13, 2013, 38 TexReg 1701

# Texas Administrative Code

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**TITLE 37** PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

**PART 1** TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

**CHAPTER 23** VEHICLE INSPECTION

**SUBCHAPTER E** VEHICLE EMISSIONS INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

**RULE §23.56** **Waiver for Low Volume Emissions Inspection Stations**

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(a) This waiver allows a public inspection station to perform limited state required vehicle emissions testing on 1996 and newer model year vehicles using department approved onboard diagnostic (OBDII) testing equipment. Government and fleet inspection stations do not require this waiver.

(b) Limitations of low volume waiver.

(1) This low volume waiver does not authorize a vehicle inspection station to conduct an emissions inspection on a vehicle which is model year 1995 or older.

(2) Each month, the vehicle inspection station is allocated 150 emission tests. After the monthly test allocation of the vehicle inspection station has been used, no more inspections will be allowed until the next month. In the event that the station performs less than 150 emission tests, the remaining number will carry over to the next month. The annual waiver limit number will be automatically reset each January with no carry over from the previous year.

(c) Applications for low volume waiver must be submitted in a manner prescribed by the department.

(d) The low volume waiver is not available to vehicle inspection stations in Travis, Williamson, or El Paso counties.

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**Source Note:** The provisions of this §23.56 adopted to be effective March 13, 2013, 38 TexReg 1701

Low Volume Emissions Inspection Station Waiver  
"OBD Only"

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

TO: DPS Regional Supervisor  
(address)

The inspection station below requests an "OBD-Only" Low Volume Emissions Inspection Station Waiver.

Station name: \_\_\_\_\_

Station number: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical address of the station: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address of the station: \_\_\_\_\_

A copy of the purchase order or receipt for a state approved OBDII only emissions testing equipment is attached.

By signing below, I, the station owner or operator, acknowledge that I have read and understand the limitations of the low volume waiver, to wit:

"I understand the conditions and limitations of being granted a low volume, OBD only emissions inspection station waiver. I agree to the limitation of 1800 annual emissions tests per year and agree to the 150 monthly emissions test limit. I agree this inspection station shall not issue certificates to other than 1996 and newer model year designated vehicles. I understand and agree that violating the terms of this waiver shall result in the suspension and/or revocation of this station's certification."

Signature of the station owner or operator: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed or typed name of station owner or operator: \_\_\_\_\_

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For Department use only.

Approve: \_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove: \_\_\_\_\_

Regional Supervisor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons for Disapproval:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Distribution: Original to Department file and copy to requesting station

# Texas Administrative Code

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<u><a href="#">TITLE 37</a></u>	PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS
<u><a href="#">PART 1</a></u>	TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
<u><a href="#">CHAPTER 23</a></u>	VEHICLE INSPECTION
<u><a href="#">SUBCHAPTER E</a></u>	VEHICLE EMISSIONS INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM
<b>RULE §23.57</b>	<b>Emissions Analyzer Access/Identification Card</b>

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(a) Access to the vehicle emissions analyzers at certified inspection stations in all counties shall be controlled using an access/identification card or other protocol as established by the department.

(b) Access/Identification Card (access/ID card).

(1) The access/ID card is the inspector's official identification. Inspectors must carry the access/ID card on their person at all times while performing inspection duties; and it must be presented to any department official upon request.

(2) Access/ID cards are department property and are nontransferable. They may not be duplicated or displayed other than on an inspector's person and must be returned to the department upon request. The inspector is responsible for all transactions made between the vehicle analyzer and the Texas Information Management System using that inspector's access/ID card.

(3) The inspector is responsible for maintenance of the card. Loss of an access/ID card shall immediately be reported to the proper department representative. The replacement fee for a lost, defaced, stolen, or discarded access/ID card is \$10.

(4) The data records maintained in the Texas Information Management System are government records. Fraudulent use of the access/ID card or the entering of false information using the access/ID card may subject the user to criminal action under either Texas Penal Code, §37.10, Texas Transportation Code, §548.601, or both, as well as administrative action by the department.

(c) Prior to issuance of a license, applicants must acknowledge having read and understood the department's policy for use and protection of use of the emissions analyzer access/identification card.

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**Source Note:** The provisions of this §23.57 adopted to be effective March 13, 2013, 38 TexReg 1701

## DPS Policy for the Use and Protection of Emissions Analyzer Access/Identification Card

I acknowledge that I have read the Department of Public Safety Rule for the use and protection of the Emissions Analyzer Access/Identification Card and corresponding Personal Identification Number (PIN). I understand that I must comply with the rule when accessing and using the vehicle emissions analyzer and my failure to comply with the rule may result in suspension or revocation of the inspector's certification as well as any appropriate criminal action or administrative disciplinary action.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Inspector ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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<u><b>TITLE 37</b></u>	PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS
<u><b>PART 1</b></u>	TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
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<u><b>SUBCHAPTER E</b></u>	VEHICLE EMISSIONS INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM
<b>RULE §23.58</b>	<b>Prohibitions</b>

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(a) No person may issue or allow the issuance of a vehicle inspection report (VIR), as authorized by the department, unless all applicable air pollution emissions control related requirements of the annual vehicle safety inspection and the vehicle emissions inspection and maintenance requirements and procedures contained in the Texas inspection and maintenance (I/M) State Implementation Plan (SIP) are completely and properly performed in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the department and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

(b) No person may allow or participate in the preparation, duplication, sale, distribution, or use of false, counterfeit, or stolen inspection certificates, VIRs, vehicle repair form(s) (VRFs), vehicle emissions repair documentation, or other documents which may be used to circumvent the vehicle emissions inspection and maintenance requirements and procedures contained in Texas Transportation Code, Chapter 548, and the Texas I/M SIP.

(c) No organization, business, person, or other entity may represent itself as an inspector certified by the department, unless such certification has been issued pursuant to the certification requirements and procedures contained in the Texas I/M SIP, this chapter, and the regulations of the department.

(d) No person may act as or offer to perform services as a recognized emissions repair technician of Texas or a recognized emissions repair facility of Texas without first obtaining and maintaining recognition by the department.

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**Source Note:** The provisions of this §23.58 adopted to be effective March 13, 2013, 38 TexReg 1701

## **05.40.00 GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

Gas Audit -The examination and verification of the validity and integrity of the exhaust gas analyzer's operation. (Analyzer to be audited by DPS representative quarterly.)

Leak Check - A method of verifying there are no leaks in the gas analyzer's lines, fittings, probes, and infrared bench.

Low Flow - The inability of an adequate gas sample to flow through the infrared bench, usually caused by clogged filters or a crimped hose.

Tamper Lock-Out -An indication to the analyzer operator that tamper switches on the gas analyzer have been actuated and the emissions testing can no longer be continued.