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Truck and Truck Tractor Vehicle Identification Number Systems —SAE J1108

SAE Recommended Practice
Editorial change September 1977

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TRUCK AND TRUCK TRACTOR VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER SYSTEMS—SAE J1108

SAE Recommended Practice

Report of Vehicle Identification Numbers Committee approved January 1975. Editorial change September 1977.

1. **Purpose**—This SAE Recommended Practice provides direction for uniform content and structure of vehicle identification numbers assigned to each type of Truck and Truck Tractor

2. Scope

2.1 This recommended practice supplements SAE J272b. It applies to characteristics of Truck and Truck Tractor descriptive and identifying information which are set forth in a uniform manner in the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN).

2.2 The VIN should be considered in the context of a make identifier, model or line, series, chassis type, cab or body type, drive wheel configuration, engine type, year identification, plant and sequence number.

3. Definitions

3.1 **Make Identifier**—That portion of VIN which designates the make of the vehicle.

3.2 See SAE J272b for definitions of vehicle identification number, vehicle descriptor section, vehicle indicator section, field, fixed length field, plant of origin and sequential number.

3.3 **Model or Line**—That portion of the Vehicle Descriptor Section (VDS) which may identify a particular series of chassis produced by a manufacturer, such as: Boss, Freightliner, Astro, Titan, Transtar, Loadstar, DM-600, L-Line, etc.

3.4 **Series**—That portion of the VDS which indicates a size identification utilized in marketing the vehicle.

3.5 **Chassis Type**—That portion of the VDS which identifies the type of Chassis, such as: truck, truck tractor, multi-stop, buses, mixer, off-highway, refuse, airport refueler, oil field, rear engine, forward control, motor home, fire truck, etc.

3.5.1 **Truck**—See SAE J687c for definition.

3.5.2 **Truck-Tractor**—See SAE J687c for definition.

3.6 **Cab or Body Type**—That portion of the VDS which may identify the cab or body type, such as: pickup, van, platform, rack, stake or flatbed, beverage, utilities, station wagon-suburban-carryall-travelall, flatback cowl, fixed cab under 96 in BBC, fixed cab over 96 in BBC, movable low cab, movable high cab, fixed half cab, panel, etc.

3.7 **Drive Wheel Configuration**—The identity in the VDS which indicated the number of axles and drive wheels, such as: 4 x 2, 4 x 4, 6 x 2, 6 x 4, 8 x 6 and 8 x 8.

3.8 **Engine Type**—That portion of the VDS which shall indicate gas, diesel or turbine-type engine.

3.9 **Year Identifier**—That portion of the VIS which shall indicate Model Year, Calendar Year of scheduled production, or special starting point for model changeover, and shall be matter of manufacturer's control.

4. Requirements

4.1 Vehicle Description Section (VDS)

4.1.1 **VDS CONTENT**—The VDS shall contain the make identifier and Model or Line, Series, Chassis Type, Cab or Body Type, Drive Wheels and Engine Type identifiers.

4.1.2 **VDS STRUCTURE**—The make identifier shall be the first field in the VDS. The sequence and field length of the components following the make identifier shall be matters of manufacturer control, reflecting the Model or Line, Series, Chassis Type, Cab or Body Type, Drive Wheels and Engine Types for regular production units. (Special orders need not be reflected.)

4.1.3 **VDS MAXIMUM LENGTH**—The number of characters contained in the VDS shall not exceed seven.

4.1.4 VDS CODING

4.1.4.1 **Make Identifier Field**—It shall be two-alpha-character code.

4.1.4.2 **Model or Line, Series, Chassis Type, Cab or Body Type, Drive Wheels and Engine Type Identifier Fields**. The coding of these vehicle descriptor components shall be matters of manufacturer control. The field length of this code set shall not exceed five characters.

4.2 Vehicle Indicator Section (VIS)

4.2.1 **VIS CONTENT**—The VIS shall contain year identifier, plant or origin and sequential number.

4.2.2 **VIS STRUCTURE**—The year identifier, plant of origin and sequential number shall appear in that sequence.

4.2.3 **VIS FIXED LENGTH**—The VIS shall contain eight characters.

4.2.4 VIS CODING

4.2.4.1 **Year Identifier Code Field**—The Year Identifier Code shall be the first position of the VIS and shown in a one-character fixed field. It may be an alpha or numeric character.

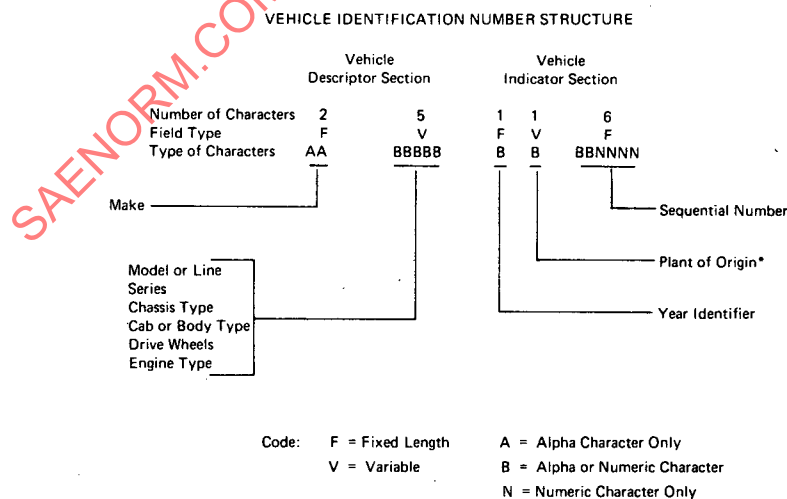
4.2.4.2 **Plant of Origin Code Field**—The Plant of Origin Code shall be the second field of the VIS and shown in a one or two-character variable length field. The first character may be alpha or numeric. If two characters are used, the second character shall be alpha.

4.2.4.3 **Sequential Number Field**—The Sequential Number shall be the third and last field of the VIS. It shall contain six characters, the last four of which shall be numeric.

5. Example—See Fig. 1

6. Durability

6.1 See SAE J187 for the requirements as to durability, size of characters and security of the VIN characters.



*If more than one character is required utilize the first character of the sequential number. See 4.2.4.2.

FIG 1—VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER STRUCTURE