



Specification for Vehicle Identification Number (VIN); VIN Plates, VIN Labels, Primary/Secondary VIN Markings VIN Derivative Markings

1 Introduction

Note: Nothing in this standard supercedes applicable laws and regulations.

Note: In the event of conflict between the English and domestic language, the English language shall take precedence.

1.1 Purpose. Identify the acceptable means of creating and applying the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) and/or the VIN derivatives on global program vehicles.

Simplify vehicle identification information retrieval and increase the accuracy and efficiency of vehicle recall campaigns.

1.2 Applicability. VIN Plate/Label and body applied VIN markings and component VIN derivative markings.

1.3 Remarks. GM Global Programs.

2 References

Note: Only the latest approved standards are applicable unless otherwise specified.

2.1 External Standards/Specifications.

49 CFR Part 541	GSO 1780	ISO 3779	ISO 4030
49 CFR Part 565	GSO 1781	ISO 3780	European Union (EU) No. 19/2011
CMVSS 115	GSO 1782	ISO 3833	European Union (EU) No. 249/2012

Note: No. = Number.

2.2 GM Standards/Specifications.

GMW3059	GMW14573	GMW15862	GMW16367
GMW14089	GMW14665		

2.3 Additional References.

- Best Practice Body Lower (BODYLWR 13) (Body VIN Design/Location Guidelines). The supplier shall work with the GM Design Responsible Engineer to comprehend this requirement.
- Best Practice BODYLWR 20 (Visible VIN Packaging Guidelines)
- Company Vehicle Operations (CVO) Unassigned Vehicle Policy Handbook
- General Assembly Bill of Process (BOP) 35253, See Appendix A, Table A2
- GM Global Legal Database
- Engine Block Bill of Material (BOM) Best Practice
- MPD 8-88-80-00 (Body VIN/Engine-Transmission VIN Derivative)
- MPD 8-88-86-40 (Visible VIN)
- Notice of Action (NOA) GVE-GVPM-New Non-Saleable MVB Captured Test Fleet 0777 Series VIN

Note: For GM internal users, the VIN standards for General Motors Global Programs may be found through the Global Labels, Literature and VIN website: <https://gmweb.gm.com/sites/toolkit/48Inl/Pages/Home-Page.aspx>.

3 Requirements

3.1 VIN Content.

3.1.1 ISO 3779.

Note: For titles of the standards and additional references relating to VINs, see Appendix A, Table A1 and Table A2.

Note: GM programs that are not bound by more stringent regulations MUST meet this standard. Key requirements are highlighted in 3.1.1.1 through 3.1.1.3.

Vehicle programs that construct a VIN based on ISO 3779 will have a 17 character VIN divided into three sections: World Manufacturer Identifier (WMI), vehicle descriptor and vehicle indicator. These sections are made up of the letters in the set: [ABCDEFGHJKLMNPRSTUVWXYZ] and/or a numeral in the set: [1234567890]. The letters I, O and Q shall not be used.

3.1.1.1 World Manufacturer Identifier (WMI). The first three characters of the VIN are the WMI per ISO 3780. A WMI is used when describing vehicles defined by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and assigned by SAE International (SAE) or local government agencies for the country of build. Any request for a unique WMI must be communicated to the Global Vehicle Security and Advanced Technology contact and reported to the appropriate governmental agency, SAE and, for United States (U.S.) vehicles, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

3.1.1.2 Vehicle Descriptor Section (VDS). The VDS consists of alphanumeric characters (selected at the manufacturers' discretion) in positions four (4) thru nine (9) of the VIN, which uniquely describe the characteristics of the vehicle.

3.1.1.3 Vehicle Indicator Section (VIS). The VIS positions 10 thru 17, consists of alphanumeric characters as defined by the vehicle manufacturer, and the last four (4) shall be numeric. Any unused positions must be filled with an alphanumeric character (at the manufacturers' discretion). No two vehicles manufactured within a 60 year period shall have an identical VIN.

3.1.2 Model Year (Position 10). Unless a country's regulation specifies a different requirement, General Motors has designated that Position 10 will represent the model year of the vehicle. General Motors defines model year as the period starting with the first production of the new model and lasting until the following model is introduced. This period shall not exceed 24 months, terminating by the end of the last month of the calendar year by which the model is designated.

3.1.3 49 CFR Part 565, CMVSS 115. The 17 character VIN is divided into four (4) sections; World Manufacturer Identifier (WMI), Vehicle Descriptor Section (VDS), calculated check digit (VIN position number 9) and Vehicle Indicator Section (VIS); made up of the letters in the set: [ABCDEFGHJKLMNPRSTUVWXYZ] and/or a numeral in the set: [1234567890] assigned according to the method given in 49 CFR Part 565.

Note: Refer to the 49 CFR Part 565 and CMVSS 115 for specific 17 character position/content requirements.

3.1.3.1 No two vehicles manufactured within a 60 year period shall have an identical VIN (in order to ensure that the worst case regulation scenario is met).

3.1.4 VIN content must satisfy the requirements in all countries of sale. Consult Regulations/Regulatory Requirements of those countries to ensure compliance.

3.2 Visible VIN label/plate (reference Best Practice BODYLWR 20 (Visible VIN Packaging Guidelines) (The supplier shall work with the GM Design Responsible Engineer to comprehend this requirement) and Regulatory Requirements).

The visible VIN plate or label is located in the left forward portion passenger compartment and is visible from the outside through the vehicle's windshield glazing. It is the legal identifier for vehicles produced and/or sold in many countries. The visible VIN will be human readable without moving any part of the vehicle. Characters shall be either upper case Positive Identification (Posident) style (General Motors North America (GMNA) required) or upper case sanserif style (vehicles not sold in GMNA and equipment purchased before January 1, 2010).

Note: Character height must be a minimum of 4 mm.

A Two Dimensional (2D) data matrix code shall be included on the VIN label/plate. In some cases, the barcode is visible through the windshield blackout. The long term strategy and rollout plan reflects the need to have the label contain a barcode, however, not be visible. This criteria is defined in Best Practice BODYLWR 20 (Visible VIN Packaging Guidelines) (The supplier shall work with the GM Design Responsible Engineer to comprehend this requirement). Refer to GMW15862 to determine the barcode content and format requirements.

Appropriate delimiters include, but are not limited to: corporate logo; e.g., GM or asterisk or star.

3.2.1 General Motors places an "EX" in position 16 and 17 to identify non-saleable, non-certified vehicles in North America. This requirement is specified in CVO Unassigned Vehicle Policy Handbook "EX" VIN Plate or Label Use, (see section 7.1) and Notice of Action (NOA) GVE-GVPM-New Non-Saleable MVB Captured Test Fleet 0777 Series VIN).

Any non-saleable, non-certified vehicle built either at a pre-production operation location/facility or the assembly center, must be designated with an "EX" VIN. General Motors uses the Regular Production Option (RPO)-VS7-Vehicle VIN Non-Saleable "EX", to identify a vehicle as an experimental vehicle.

This RPO must be placed on the vehicle order in order to generate the "EX" designator on the VIN plate/label for any vehicle built in GMNA or another country that will be shipped to the U.S. for testing/final certification. This is an example of that format. See Figure 1.

Figure 1: Format Showing Position 16 and 17 as "EX"



3.2.1.1 The use of a unique series 0777 VIN for GMNA engineered and built vehicles is approved for use in the U.S. to help identify non-saleable/certified vehicles built for use in the qualified Captured Test Fleet (CTF). These vehicles will be identified by the RPO US2- VEHICLE VIN NON-SALEABLE, 0777 SERIES VIN.

Note: All vehicle validation testing MUST be completed by the Vehicle Technical Center (VTC) or these vehicles will remain an "EX" VIN in lieu of having the unique 0777 series VIN assignment.

3.2.2 Thatcham and Security Strategy.

3.2.2.1 Anti counterfeit measures (e.g., holographic or watermark image/markings) shall include a minimum of two security features which may be: Posident font (required for U.S. vehicles), watermark, GM Logo, 2D barcode or proprietary part.

3.2.2.2 It shall not be possible to "easily" obscure the VIN plate/label by sliding a piece of paper along the inside surface of the windshield. Easily is defined as less than 15 s of effort.

3.2.3 Visible VIN Label Performance and Design Requirements.

3.2.3.1 The VIN label adhesive material must be selected in accordance with GMW14573 - Global Performance Requirements for Labels so that the label adheres to the specific mounting surface/substrate. The aluminum VIN plate and rivet materials must be selected so that the specific mounting surface or substrate meet GMW16367 and GMW14665 (code 20) for plates and rivets.

3.2.3.2 Label/plate cannot be removed without damaging or defacing the label/plate or vehicle surface.

3.2.3.3 For VIN labels and plates, the style, proportion, and spacing of the characters shall conform to the specification in Table 1.

Table 1: Dimensional Specifications for the Visible VIN

Criteria	Length (millimeter)
Character Height (minimum)	4.0 mm
Character Width (minimum)	2.0 mm
Center to Center Distance Between Characters (minimum)	3.0 mm (for reference only)
Length (For 17 Characters is variable)	50.0 mm (for reference only)