



Specification for Vehicle Identification Number (VIN): VIN Labels/Plates, Body/Engine/Transmission VIN Markings, and VIN Content

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.

1.2 Applicability. VIN Plate/Label and body VIN markings and engine/transmission VIN 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	European Union (EU) GSO 1781 No. 19/2011	ISO 3780
49 CFR Part 565	European Union (EU) GSO 1782 No. 249/2012	ISO 3833
CMVSS 115	GSO 1780	ISO 3779 ISO 4030

Note: No. = Number.

2.2 GM Standards/Specifications.

GMW3059	GMW14573	GMW15862
GMW14089	GMW14665	GMW16367

2.3 Additional References.

- Best Practice BODYLWR-13 (Body VIN Design/Location Guidelines).
- 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 Automotive Regulation Information Database (ARID)
- MPD 8-88-80-00 (Body VIN/Engine-Transmission VIN Derivative)
- MPD 8-88-86-40 (Visible VIN)
- Powertrain Engine Block BOP

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>.

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

3 Requirements

3.1 VIN Content.

3.1.1 ISO 3779.

Note: GM programs that are not bound by more stringent regulations **MUST** meet this standard. Key requirements for VIN content 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 appropriate regulatory lead for the region, 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 and 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. Refer to the 49 CFR Part 565 and CMVSS 115 for specific 17-character position/content requirements. All vehicles shipped to the U.S. and Canada must meet this requirement.

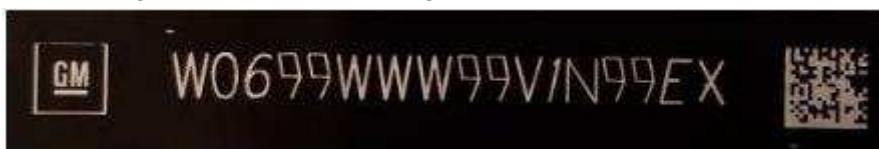
3.1.3.1 No two vehicles manufactured within a 60 year period shall have an identical VIN (in order to ensure that the worst case regulation scenario is met).

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

3.1.5 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 7.1).

Any non-saleable, non-certified vehicle built either at a pre-production operation location/facility or at the assembly center, must be designated with an "EX" VIN. General Motors uses the Regular Production Option (RPO) VS7-Vehicle VIN Non-Saleable "EX" on the vehicle order to identify a vehicle as an experimental vehicle for any vehicle built in GMNA or another country that will be shipped to the U.S. for testing/final certification. See Figure 1 for an example of the format.

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



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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))

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.

Character height must be a minimum of 4 mm.

A two-dimensional (2D) data matrix code shall be included on the VIN label/plate. The barcode shall be visible through the windshield blackout. This criterion 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 requirements.

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

3.2.1 Security and Thatcham Insurance Strategy.

3.2.1.1 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. and Canadian vehicles), watermark, GM Logo, 2D barcode or proprietary part.

3.2.1.2 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 < 15 s of effort.

3.2.2 Visible VIN Label Performance and Design Requirements.

3.2.2.1 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.

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

3.2.2.3 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
Length (shown for 17 Characters; is variable)	50.0 mm (estimate)

3.2.3 Product Characteristics. Plate or label must last for the life of the vehicle.

3.2.3.1 Target Life. Fifteen (15) years.

3.2.3.2 Reliability Requirements. The plate, rivets and body surface markings must not corrode for the life of the vehicle. The label must adhere and remain readable for the life of the vehicle.

3.3 Body VIN. (Reference Best Practice BODYLWR-13) (the supplier shall work with the GM Design Responsible Engineer to comprehend this requirement).

3.3.1 ISO 4030 Requirement. The body VIN is required by regulation in over 100 countries. The characters shall be ≥ 7 mm, to comply with regulatory requirements. The body VIN shall be stamped or scribed into the vehicle body or chassis (frame). The location of the body VIN must meet the following criteria:

- Located on an "integral part of the structure" and "non-removable part".
- Located in the front right quadrant of vehicle.
- Readily visible.