Hurricane Sandy Vehicles

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Hurricane Sandy Impacts on Salvage Vehicles

• According to NY DMV records, 155,000 vehicles that were registered and/or titled in New York State were totaled by the respective insurance companies and were sold as salvage. (This matches the records maintained by NICB).

• Over 100,000 vehicles that were registered and titled in NYS were transferred to a dismantler or scrap processor after the storm where flood damage was listed as a cause. All of these vehicles were issued a NYS Salvage Certificate.

• Municipalities in NYS towed or impounded over 5,000 vehicles that were abandoned, impeding traffic or were impeding cleanup efforts after Hurricane Sandy.

• Approximately 100,000 vehicles from NJ and 50,000 from CT were also salvaged.
Unexpected Issues

• Storing and processing vehicles

• Processing three times the normal volume of salvage vehicles we process in a year during a 6 month period.

• Maintaining processing times and timely updates to NMVTIS and data customers.
Queens, New York
A vehicle parked in the driveway in Queens

New Car Depot for NYC Taxi’s
An underground garage flooded which resulted in some vehicles floating to the top.
Calverton Airport
Used to store 15,000+ vehicles
Solutions-Help from some Friends

Working in conjunction with AAMVA and US DOJ, NYS DMV secured a $78,000 grant to utilize OT to process the “flood“ of salvage paperwork.

This allowed us to process all new salvage ownerships transfers within 10 days of receiving them, this would normally update the records for NMVTIS within 24 hours.

Once processed, a vehicle could not be re-titled or registered in NYS without a physical examination.

We utilized NMVTIS to screen and prevent undisclosed out of state salvage from coming into NY.
NICB

• Provided assistance to municipalities in disposing of impounded vehicles.

• Assisted in tracking vehicles and maintaining contact with insurance companies.

• Worked closely with our agency to insure we accounted for all vehicles salvaged in New York State.
NICB LINK ON DMV WEBPAGE
A batch of 20,000 salvage applications we received in a 48 hour period.
Questions?