Conventional Wisdom for Unconventional Vehicles
FACILITATOR:
Casey Garber,
Manager, Vehicle Programs,
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PRESENTERS:

Scott Clapper,
Chief of Vehicle Services, Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles and Member, Vehicle Standing Committee

Mark Francis,
Manager, Provincial Vehicle Registration & Licensing, Insurance Corporation of British Columbia and Member, Driver Standing Committee

William Childress,
Director, Vehicle Services, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles and Vice Chair, Vehicle Standing Committee
Conventional Wisdom for Unconventional Vehicles
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Spring Workshop
Ft. Worth, Texas
March 18 - 19, 2015

Moderated By: Casey Garber

Presenters:
Scott Clapper, Chief of Vehicle Services, Delaware DMV
Mark Francis, Manager, Provincial Vehicle Registration & Licensing, British Columbia
William Childress, Director of Vehicle Services, Virginia DMV
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Scott Clapper, Chief of Vehicle Services
Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles
In 2013, the Three-Wheel Vehicle Working Group Published Best Practices for Three-Wheel Vehicles.
• 3-Wheel vehicles and Autocycles
  – Motorcycle
    • Designed to Travel on Not More Than Three Wheels in Contact With the Ground.
  – Autocycle
    • A Three-wheel Motorcycle That Has a Steering Wheel and Seating That Does Not Require the Operator to Straddle or Sit Astride It.
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• Quiz – Name That Vehicle

Is it... Motorcycle or Autocycle?
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- **Motorcycle (3-wheel or 2-wheel)**
  
  Required Safety Equipment
  
  - Brakes on all wheels
  - Amber Front Side Reflectors; Red Rear Side and Rear Facing Reflectors
  - Turn Signals, Stop Light, Tail Light, Head Light, horn
  - Rear View Mirror
• Titled and Registered as a Motorcycle
• Driver Licensing for Motorcycle (2-wheel)
  – Knowledge Test
  – Road Test
  – “M” Endorsement
  – Can Ride 2 or 3-Wheel Motorcycles
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• Titled and Registered as a Motorcycle
• Driver Licensing for Motorcycle (3-wheel)
  – Knowledge Test
  – 3-Wheel Skill Test
  – “M” Endorsement With “3” Restriction
  – Can Only Ride 3-Wheel Motorcycles
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- **Industry Concern**
  - Drivers License Endorsement.
  - **Define Autocycle as:** autocycle means a three wheeled motorcycle on which the drivers and passengers ride in a completely enclosed, tandem seating area that is equipped with a roll cage, airbag protection, safety belts for each occupant and antilock brakes and that is designed to be controlled with a steering wheel and pedals.
  - Drop Helmet Requirement for Autocycle
  - Passenger Car Drivers License – No Endorsement.
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• There is No 3-Wheel Road Test
• People Travelling from State Without a 3-Wheel Restriction to State With
• Autocycle Cannot Be Used for Passenger Car Road Test (Class D)
Unconventional Vehicles
Current Challenges for Jurisdictions

March 18, 2015

Mark Francis
People love to be creative
Roll-over protection?
Glider Kits
Challenges & Issues

- How to describe on title/registration?
- Circumventing emissions regulations
- Consumer protection
- A non-compliant vehicle
- Importation
Electric motorcycles
Challenges & Issues

- How to describe on title/registration?
- High power without sound
- Public safety
- Consistent with climate change policy
Tiny Homes
Tiny home interior
Challenges & Issues

• Lack of regulation – safety standards
• No specific inspection standards
• Roadworthiness
• Towing and transportation
• Insurance
And of course – 3 Wheelers
More 3 wheelers
And the Elio
Challenges & Issues

- How to describe on title/registration?
- Safety standards
- Jurisdictional consistency
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William Childress
Director, Vehicle Services
Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles
March 18, 2015
Tanom Invader - Autocycle
Tanom Invader

• As of July 1, 2014, classified as an autocycle
  – Three-wheel vehicle
  – Steering wheel
  – Can’t straddle or sit astride
  – Meets federal motor vehicle safety standards for a motorcycle

• Motorcycle plate
Tanom Invader

- Regular driver’s license
- No motorcycle classification
- No motorcycle training class
- No helmet required because of hard top
- Open top? Helmet required
- Prior to July 1, 2014, classified as a motorcycle (subject to all requirements)
Polaris Slingshot - Autocycle

Exclusive: Polaris Slingshot
Polaris Slingshot

• As of July 1, 2014, classified as an autocycle
  – Three-wheel vehicle
  – Steering wheel
  – Can’t straddle or sit astride

• Motorcycle plate
Polaris Slingshot

• Regular driver’s license
• No motorcycle classification
• No motorcycle training class
• Helmet required due to open top
• Prior to July 1, 2014, classified as a motorcycle (subject to all requirements)
Mopeds

- Government issued photo ID required
  - Must include name, address, and date of birth
- Must be age 16 or older to operate on Virginia roads
- No insurance
- No safety inspection
- Moped license plate
Mopeds

• Moped without windshield
  – Driver and passengers required to wear helmets and protective eyewear (face shield or goggles)

• Moped with windshield
  – Helmets required
Mopeds

- If moped is operated at speeds > 35 MPH, law enforcement will treat operator as if operating a motorcycle
  - Driver’s license
  - Motorcycle classification
  - Motorcycle plate
  - State safety inspection
  - Insurance
Three-Wheel Motorcycles
Three-Wheel Motorcycles

- Motorcycle training class (no road or knowledge test if successful)
  - M classification – operate 2 & 3-wheel motorcycles
  - M2 classification – operate 2-wheel motorcycle only
  - M3 classification – operate 3-wheel motorcycle only
- Driver’s license with motorcycle classification
- Learner’s permit (15 years and 6 months)
  - Have for at least 30 days (19 and over)
  - Skills test for 2 or 3-wheel (can do both)
  - Motorcycle license or classification to driver’s license
Three-Wheel Motorcycles

- Motorcycle plates
- Helmet and eye protection
- Windshield, helmet
Non-Conventional Vehicles
2011 – Legislators charged DMV to establish Non-Conventional Vehicles Work Group

Purpose was to address the increasing consumer demand for vehicles that do not fit current motor vehicle definitions

Work group comprised of over 75 stakeholders
Non-Conventional Vehicles

- 2012 & 2013 – focus on low speed vehicles, motorcycle classifications, mopeds, all-terrain vehicles, three-wheel vehicles (autocycles)

- Resulting legislation:
  - Motorcycles 2013
  - Mopeds 2013
  - Low speed license plate 2013
  - Autocycles 2014
Non-Conventional Vehicles

• 2014 focus
  – Enhanced Inspection Program
  – Autonomous vehicles
  – Conversion of off-road motorcycles to on-road use – legislation effective July 1, 2015
  – Specialty Constructed Vehicle Committee
Specially Constructed

• Committee representatives from:
  – DMV Vehicle Services
  – DMV Enforcement
  – DMV Legal Services
  – DMV Legislative Services
  – Virginia State Police
  – Virginia Automobile Dealers Association

• Committee reviews questionable vehicles for registration purposes
Definition:

“any vehicle that was not originally constructed under a distinctive name, make, model or type by a generally recognized manufacturer of vehicles and not a reconstructed vehicle”
Specially Constructed

Process:

• Owner applies to Virginia DMV for registration
• Owner must certify the vehicle meets federal motor vehicle safety standards
Specially Constructed

• If denied registration or DMV cannot make a determination, vehicle may be submitted to the Specially Constructed Vehicle Committee by the customer or the Vehicle Branding Work Center for review

• Outcomes:
  – titled and registered
  – titled and denied registration
Questions and Comments
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