

Correct as at 25th October 2013. It may be superseded at any time.

Extract taken: from NZTA Vehicle Portal > VIRMs > Entry certification > Technical bulletins > Water or fire-damaged vehicles

2 Water or fire-damaged vehicles

Applicable legislation

- [Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Standards Compliance 2002](#), section 11.1
- [Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Repair 1998](#)

Application

- This document applies to any vehicle undergoing entry-level certification that may have suffered water or fire damage.

Note 1

Water- or fire-damaged vehicles imported from Japan may not have been de-registered in Japan. This means that vehicles imported from Japan presented with registration documents only are more 'at risk' vehicles.

Note 2

Do not rule out the possibility that privately imported vehicles have suffered water damage.

Vehicles flagged at the border

If water damage is detected on a vehicle during a border inspection, the vehicle will be flagged as damaged and the details forwarded to the NZTA's Data Integrity team (Lead Specialist, Border Checks).

The Lead Specialist will then record a water or fire damage message in the vehicle notes on LANDATA. This message reads as follows:

'Water-damaged vehicle. Must be certified by a repair certifier.'

or

'Fire damaged vehicle. Must be certified by a repair certifier. Not to be certified by a TSD agent without approval from NZTA NO.'

Any vehicle that has a water or fire damage message attached must be referred to a repair certifier before processing for registration, as the vehicle may not be able to be economically repaired.

Water damage or fire detected by TSD agents

If a TSD agent carrying out entry-level certification detects water or fire damage on a vehicle that has not been flagged for damage at the border by MAF, the vehicle must be referred to a repair certifier. The TSD agent must notify the NZTA's Data Integrity team (Attention: Lead Specialist, Border Checks – phone 0800 804 580, fax 06 953 6267), so that the vehicle can be added to the list of water and fire damaged vehicles recorded on the website. They must also record the water or fire damage message (as above) in the vehicle notes on LANDATA.

Documentation to be provided with water or fire damaged vehicles

The following documents must be presented with a **water-damaged** vehicle before it can be processed for registration:

- An original [Light vehicle repair record of determination](#) (LT308) covering the repair has been carried out in accordance with the [VIRM: Light vehicle repair certification](#).

The following documents must be presented with a **fire-damaged** vehicle before it can be processed for registration:

- An original [Light vehicle repair record of determination](#) (LT308) covering the repair has been carried out in accordance with the [VIRM: Light vehicle repair certification](#), and
- An original letter (LT351F) from the NZ Transport Agency.

Every repair certification of a fire-damaged vehicle is audited by the NZTA. The LT351F letter confirms that an audit has been conducted on the vehicle specified, and that the correct repair certification process has been followed. If a vehicle is presented without an LT351F, the TSD agent must contact Technical Support, Access and Use, NZTA National Office.

