

Labelling Requirements for Hydrogen and Electric-powered Vehicles

Introduction

This factsheet provides advice to manufacturers and owners of hydrogen and electric powered (including hybrids) vehicles regarding number plate warning label requirements for vehicles built, or modified as such after 1 January 2019.

Background

Currently, vehicles powered by gaseous fuels, such as liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), liquefied natural gas (LNG) or compressed natural gas (CNG), must be fitted with labelling on their number plates. This labelling is to assist emergency service responders identify vehicles powered by alternative fuels and take any necessary precautions when responding.

From 1 January 2019, the requirement for number plate labelling will be expanded to also apply to hydrogen and electric-powered vehicles (including hybrid vehicles). The existing requirements for other alternative fuel systems are unchanged.

Eligible Vehicles

Vehicles that require a warning label:

Hydrogen-powered vehicle means a motor vehicle that is powered by a hydrogen fuel system and has one or more hydrogen fuel containers fitted to the vehicle for the system.

Electric-powered vehicle means a motor vehicle that is powered by one or more electric motors.

Hybrid vehicle means a motor vehicle that is powered by an internal combustion engine (regardless of fuel type) and at least one electric motor.

Label Requirements

The label must be:

- Fixed conspicuously to front and rear number plates
- Affixed to a plate made of metal that is at least 1mm thick
- Compliant with class 2 of AS 1906.1 *Retroreflective Materials and Devices for Road Traffic Control Purposes - Retroreflective Sheeting*
- Fixed to the number plates so that the letters on the label are in an upright position.
- Fixed so as not to wholly or partly obscure any characters on the number plates.

For electric-powered vehicles (including hybrid vehicles not fuelled with hydrogen):

- The metal plate and label size shall be an equilateral triangle shape each side of which is 30 mm in length.
- The label colour shall be retroreflective blue, complying with AS/ NZS 1906.1, Class 2.
- It is marked 'EV' in white capital letters that are at least 8mm in height.



Figure 1: example label for electric-powered vehicles

For hydrogen-powered vehicles:

- The metal plate and label size shall be a regular pentagon shape each side of which is 20 mm long.
- The label colour shall be retroreflective yellow, complying with AS/ NZS 1906.1, Class 2.
- It is marked 'H' in a black capital letter that is at least 10mm in height.



Figure 2: example label for hydrogen-powered vehicles

Where a vehicle is fitted with more than one hydrogen fuel tank, two labels must be affixed to the front and rear number plates.

For hybrid vehicles fuelled with hydrogen and electricity:

Vehicles fitted with an electric or traction motor in conjunction with a hydrogen fuel system for the propulsion of the vehicle must comply with the requirements for hydrogen-powered vehicles. Electric vehicle labels need not be applied in addition to the hydrogen labels.

Further information

Call 1300 882 248

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Email dpti.vehiclestandards@sa.gov.au

The information and data on this fact sheet is subject to change without notice. The Government of South Australia may revise this information at any time by updating this factsheet.