



Testing Times

TT21 - Supplement

Using the Road Vehicle Certification System

This supplement provides a guide to finding those elusive engine numbers and other useful vehicle data using the Department of Transport and Regional Services' [DoTaRS] internet site.

Before you start you will need some identification information from the vehicle. To get this information find the vehicle's compliance plate and note the compliance plate approval number referred to as the 'CPA'. Record this number as you will need it later.

The information you will need to access on the web site is known as a RVD (Road Vehicle Descriptor). These are forms providing technical information for particular vehicles. As well as engine and vehicle identity number locations, the forms provide suspension, brake and engine data and other useful info.

To find the engine number location you will also need a copy of the AMVCB grid system. This is a multi page document that contains 'maps' of vehicles and engines and is set up like a Melways. That is, it is marked up into grids and you use reference numbers to identify locations. The reference numbers are obtained by following the instructions below but it is recommended that you download the grid system and save it for future use. Be warned that if you print it out it is 38 pages long.

Finding the Engine Number Location.

Step 1 – Go to the RVCS site. To do this:

- Open a web browser on your computer and type in the following address:
<http://www.dotars.gov.au/>
- Scroll down the left side of the web page until you locate the link to "Road Vehicle Certification System". Click on this link and it takes you to the RVCS MENU - the screen shown below.

[You can also go directly to it at <http://rvcs-prodweb.dot.gov.au/> if you prefer]

The screenshot shows the RVCS (Road Vehicle Certification System) website. On the left is a navigation menu with links such as 'What's New?', 'About RVCS', 'Register Here', 'Participant's Log on', 'Vehicle/RVD search', 'Import Application', 'Instructions for Importers', 'Administrator's Circulars', 'ADR Applicability tables', 'Form Downloads', 'Australian Design Rules', 'List of Agents', 'Service Standards', 'SEVS Information', 'Register of Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicles', 'Table of NOT ELIGIBLE Vehicle Models for SEVS', 'Vehicle Inspection Forms (SUTI and 0-4-5)', and 'ADR 83:00 Stationary Noise "Signature" Data'. On the right is the 'System Noticeboard' with a 'Last updated: 7/12/2006' timestamp and a notice about database updates. Two yellow callout boxes with black arrows point to specific links in the menu: one points to 'Vehicle/RVD search' and the other points to 'Vehicle Inspection Forms (SUTI and 0-4-5)'.

Step 2 - From the previous screen you can enter the RVD search page or get the AMVCB grid system charts. If you have the charts then go to Step 3.

Step 3 - Go to the RVD search page [shown below], enter the CPA number from the Compliance Plate you recorded earlier and make sure "ALL" is selected in the status box so that all relevant approvals are included - not just the latest ones. Click on the search button.

In the sample screen above, the CPA approval number 35628 for the VE Commodore, has been used. Clicking the SEARCH button takes you to the page below.

Step 4 - Click on the link shown above to get a listing of all the approvals that have been issued under the CPA approval number you entered. This will take you to a page like the one following.

RVCS Certification Unit Details



HOLDEN VE P/CAR - Certification Unit ID: 35628

Approval Status: Approved

Approval Documents

Issued on 26-Sep-2006

Issued on 16-Aug-2006

Issued on 23-Jun-2006

Issued on 28-Mar-2006

Select the RVD chart you want and Click to open

Road Vehicle Descriptors (RVDs)

Body Type	Marketing Designation	Document Reference	Replacement Type
SEDAN	COMMODORE	RVD6VAB5C607	Supersedes By- RVD6VAB5C614
SEDAN	COMMODORE	RVD6VAB5C608	
SEDAN	COMMODORE	RVD6VAB5C609	Supersedes By- RVD6VAB5C615
SEDAN	Clubsport R8, Senator & GTS	RVDHVUB5C600	Corrected By- RVDHVUB5C601
SEDAN	Clubsport R8, Senator & GTS	RVDHVUB5C601	Corrects- RVDHVUB5C600
SEDAN	COMMODORE	RVD6VAB5C614	Supersedes- RVD6VAB5C607
SEDAN	COMMODORE	RVD6VAB5C615	Supersedes- RVD6VAB5C609



Send us an email: rvcs@dotars.gov.au
or call the RVCS help desk: (02) 6274 7766

Step 5 - Select the RVD chart you need to get to the next screen with all the details of the particular vehicle.

Note: The descriptors for the documents do not always describe exactly what they contain so you might have to open a few to find the right one. For example, the document in the second row down has to be chosen to find the SS series vehicles as shown in the screen below.



FORS use only	
CPA No.	35628-e
Issue Date	

Road Vehicle Descriptor (RVD1)

for category LEP, LEG, MA, MB, MC, MD1, MD2, MD3, NA and NB1 vehicles




Document

Licensee's Reference for this Document <i>(Use only 12 characters)</i> RVD6VAB5C608	Licensee's Name GM HOLDEN LTD	Date <i>(dd/mm/yyyy)</i> 4-May-2006
Vehicle Make GM HOLDEN	Embargo Date <i>(dd/mm/yyyy)</i> 4-Aug-2006	Vehicle Model VE P/CAR
Category Code MA	NSW Body Shape SED	Marketing Designation COMMODORE
Body Style SEDAN		Proposed SUTI Date <i>(dd/mm/yyyy)</i>

If this RVD is to be associated with an already submitted RVD Image, please give the document reference of the RVD Image form

Variant Information

	1	2	3	4	5
Variant Name	SS SEDAN	SS V SERIES	Police SS		
Axle Code	R11	R11	R11		
Tare Mass	1708	1731	1729		
Gross Vehicle Mass					

