

GHANA VEHICLE HOMOLOGATION AND CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME
Ensuring Safe, Compliant and Environmentally Responsible Vehicles for Ghana

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

1. WHY IS GSA IMPLEMENTING THESE REQUIREMENTS?

The Ghana Standards Authority (GSA) is implementing mandatory conformity assessment requirements for vehicles assembled / manufactured and imported into Ghana to ensure that these vehicles comply with applicable Ghana Standards and regulatory requirements.

2. WHAT IS THE SCOPE OF VEHICLES THAT WILL BE COVERED BY THIS PROGRAMME?

1. New Vehicles assembled or manufactured in Ghana
2. New Vehicles imported into Ghana
3. Used vehicles imported into Ghana

Vehicles include two, three and four or more wheelers

3. WHO IS AFFECTED?

These requirements apply to:

- Individuals who wish to import vehicle(s) for their personal use
- Businesses and Commercial Importers of New or Used Vehicles (Vehicle Distributors or Dealers)

4. WILL THE CONFORMITY REQUIREMENTS FOR BOTH NEW AND USED VEHICLES BE THE SAME?

New vehicles must undergo Vehicle Homologation (certification). This means that all new vehicles assembled/manufactured or imported in Ghana must have their critical components tested by recognized third-party testing bodies and the test reports generated submitted to the GSA for review and approval. Sample unit(s) of the vehicle model(s) must be inspected by the GSA to verify conformance. The GSA has been homologating (certifying) new vehicle models assembled /manufactured or imported by assemblers and recognized / authorized dealerships since 2020.

Used vehicles must undergo Pre-export/shipment Verification of Conformity (PVoC) by a GSA approved third-party inspection body in the country of origin and a Certificate of Conformance (CoC) issued to accompany the vehicle's export documentation. This means an inspection body recognized by the GSA will inspect the vehicle in the exporting country to ensure it meets the Ghana Standard before the vehicle is shipped to Ghana. The CoC and vehicle will be verified at all entry points by designated inspectors.

5. WHEN WILL ENFORCEMENT OF THIS PROGRAM TAKE EFFECT?

The requirements apply to all new and used vehicles shipped on or after **1ST OCTOBER 2026**

6. ARE THERE ANY EXCEPTIONS?

Vehicles that were shipped before 1st October 2026, even if they arrive in Ghana after the implementation date, will not be affected by the new import requirements. Similarly, vehicles already in Ghana prior to the implementation date are exempt.

7. WHAT IS CONSIDERED A NEW VEHICLE AND A USED VEHICLE?

Used Vehicle: a motor vehicle that has been previously owned and registered and is more than twelve months from the date of manufacture of the vehicle and with a mileage exceeding 1 500 km.

New Vehicle: Vehicles other than the above definition of a used vehicle.

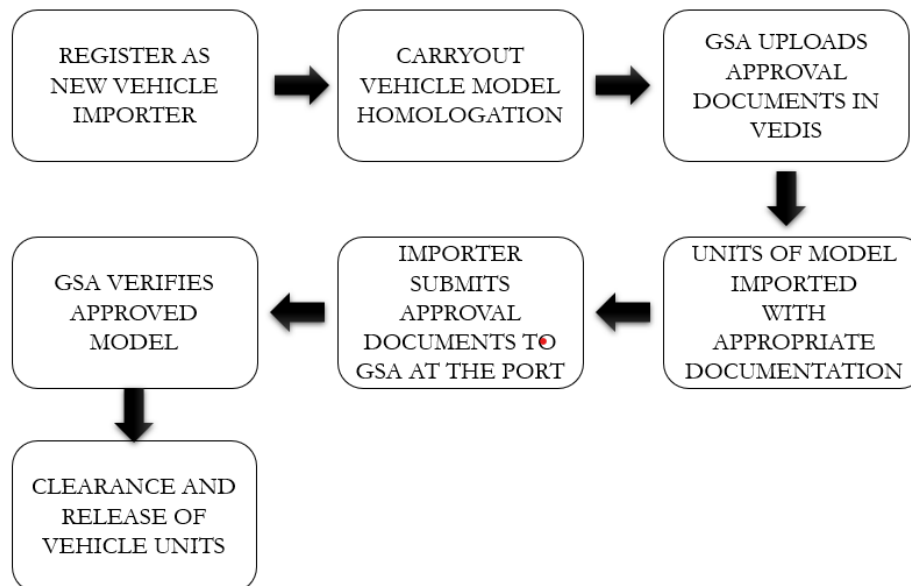
8. WHAT USED VEHICLES CANNOT BE IMPORTED INTO GHANA?

The following administrative implementation framework have been established for the commencement of enforcement of the Ghana Standard for imported used vehicles from 1st October 2026. Used vehicles that do meet these requirements shall be prohibited from importation into Ghana. All used vehicles intended for import in any of the following conditions shall not be allowed into the country:

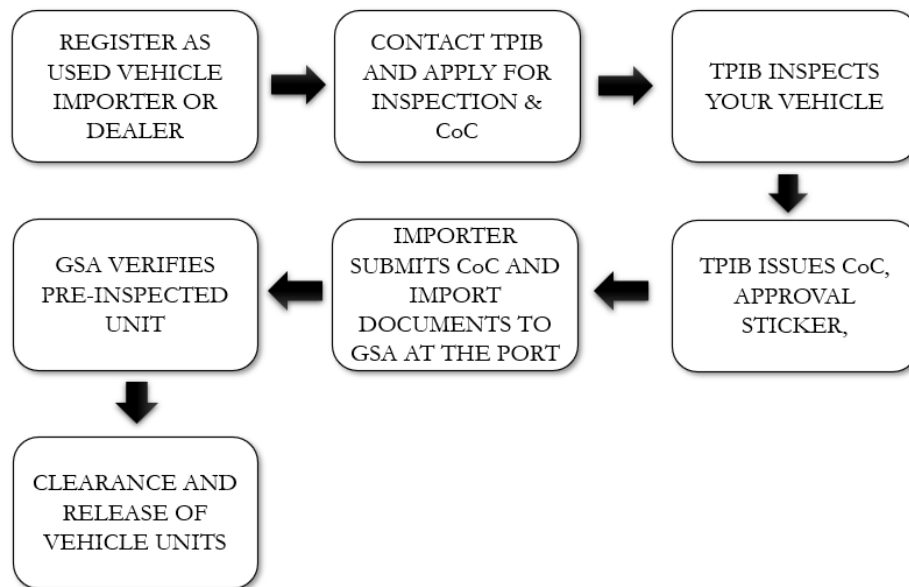
1. Salvaged vehicles with the following major damages
 - a. Submerged in water or damaged by flood.
 - b. Burnt or consumed by fire
 - c. Has value only as a source of parts and scrap metal, or has been designated by its owner for dismantling,
 - d. Chassis / Safety Cage damage (broken, cracked, bent or twisted).
2. Over-aged vehicles (Above fifteen (15) years)
3. Vehicles assembled from spare parts
4. Vehicles without speedometer readings in kilometre per hour (km/hr).

9. WHAT PROCEDURE MUST I FOLLOW TO IMPORT?

A. FLOW FOR IMPORTING NEW VEHICLES



B. FLOW FOR IMPORTING USED VEHICLES (Pre-Export/Shipment Verification of Conformity PVoC)



TPIB – Third-Party Inspection Body

CoC – Certificate of Conformance

GSA – Ghana Standards Authority

VEDIS – Vehicle and Dealership Information System

10. WHAT IS VEDIS?

This is an electronic platform developed and hosted by the managers of the Integrated Customs Management System (ICUMS), through which vehicle and dealership compliance will be regulated by the GSA.

The system will contain a registry of all vehicle imports and vehicle importers including registered dealerships. Vehicle dealerships registered and regulated through this system will be published by the GSA on the GSA website. Any who wish to purchase vehicles are encouraged to engage with only registered dealerships regulated by the GSA and published on the GSA website.

Certificates of Conformance will be issued and uploaded to VEDIS by third-party inspection bodies in the countries of origin for later vehicle conformance verification and port clearance at any point of entry into Ghana.

The system will maintain records of imported vehicles along with their condition/status and/or damage history at the time of exportation. This information can be accessed by the General Public upon request.

Amongst other things, the system is to facilitate traceability, vehicle security, theft mitigation and support information sharing amongst relevant state agencies and the public.

11. WHO IS REQUIRED TO REGISTER AS A VEHICLE IMPORTER?

- Any individual that imports for personal use.
- Any entity that imports for use in their business.
- Any entity that imports for sale.

12. HOW DO I REGISTER AS A VEHICLE IMPORTER?

Download a copy of the application form on the GSA website www.gsa.gov.gh or request a copy via email auto@gsa.gov.gh or pick up a form from any GSA Office.

13. HOW DO I CONTACT APPROVED THIRD-PARTY INSPECTION BODIES?

The GSA shall provide contact details of recognized and approved third-party inspection bodies, upon registration as a vehicle importer.

14. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE ENFORCEMENT OF VEHICLE STANDARDS?

Protect Consumers: Ensures that consumers receive vehicles that meet minimum standards for safety and quality, reducing the risk of purchasing defective, unsafe, or misrepresented vehicles.

Improve Road Safety: Reduce road traffic crashes associated with mechanical defects, structural damage, or poorly maintained vehicles.

Improve the Quality of Vehicles on Ghana's Roads: Promote the importation of higher-quality vehicles equipped with modern vehicle technologies, modernization of Ghana's vehicle fleet and keeping pace with global automotive advancements.

Support the Growth of Ghana's Automotive Industry: Provide a regulatory framework that supports local vehicle assembling, manufacturing, authorized distributors, and encouraging investment and fair competition.

Recognize Compliant Vehicle Dealerships: Establish a registration system for new and used vehicle dealerships in Ghana. Registered dealerships will be recognized and published, enabling consumers to identify reputable businesses and make informed purchasing decisions.

Enhance Vehicle Security and Traceability: Aspects of the programme will support efforts to detect and deter the importation of stolen vehicles and fraudulent vehicle transactions.

Protect the Environment: Improve air quality and reduce vehicle emissions by ensuring that imported vehicles comply with applicable environmental and emission standards

Promote Fair Trade: Create a level playing field where all importers and dealers are subject to the same standards, reducing unfair competition from non-compliant vehicles.

Facilitate Regional and International Trade: Align Ghana's vehicle conformity assessment system with international best practices, as Ghana works to trade its vehicles with other countries

15. IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Existing Import Procedures Remain in Force. The implementation of the vehicle homologation and conformity assessment programme does not replace existing statutory requirements for importing vehicles into Ghana. Importers must continue to comply with all applicable customs, port, licensing and other legal requirements.

16. NEED ASSISTANCE?

Contact the: **Vehicle Homologation Unit, Ghana Standards Authority**, via

Email: auto@gsa.gov.gh

Phone: 030 398 0177, 0256061634 or 0557088261