

16th Issue

Progress of Voluntary Registration Schemes for Vehicle Mechanics and Vehicle Maintenance Workshops





- 3. Sharing
- 4. Latest Developments of the Registration Schemes
- 5. Questions for 2016 Continuing Professional Development (Quiz)
- 8. E-learning Training Courses: Professional Courses on Automotive Digitisation
- 9. Information on Engine Lubricating Oil
- 10. Prize Quiz (Issue No. 16)
- 11. Training Institutes Providing Continuing Professional Development Courses for Vehicle Mechanics







From the Editor



Members of the 6th Vehicle Maintenance Technical Advisory Committee Assume Office

The members of the new term of the Vehicle Maintenance Technical Advisory Committee (VMTAC) took office on 1 June 2016. To maintain the VMTAC's broad representation as in the past, its members include representatives from different trade associations, professional institutions, training institutes, transport operators employing a large number of vehicle mechanics, vehicle suppliers' associations, vehicle owners' association and relevant government departments as well as an independent person. Apart from 20 members (including the Chairman), the VMTAC also has six co-opted members. The lists of members and co-opted members of the VMTAC are shown in Tables 1 and 2 below.

With the commencement of the new term, members of the VMTAC have been actively following up on various issues over the past six months, including setting up two subcommittees (namely the Subcommittee on Management and Review and the Subcommittee on Research and Development), RVM Newsletter Editorial Working Group, and Working Group on the Category of Electric Vehicle and Hybrid Vehicle Maintenance Mechanics; discussing and formulating proposals for work and development in respect of different aspects of the Voluntary Registration Scheme for Vehicle Mechanics and the Voluntary Registration Scheme for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops (VRSVMW); and promoting the two registration schemes by rolling out a series of promotional activities, such as launching in the fourth quarter of last year an online newsletter on the "disuse of the criterion of 'ten-year experience' as the means for vehicle mechanics to apply for registration as registered vehicle mechanics", and distributing and sending out promotional CDs covering the two registration schemes to the trade to facilitate their understanding of the relevant information. Besides, advertisements featuring the VRSVMW were put in various car magazines in December 2016, January and February 2017 to help members of the trade and the public enhance their awareness of the vehicle maintenance workshops and their signage. In the coming year, the VMTAC and the Vehicle Maintenance Registration Unit of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department will continue to strive to enhance the image and standard of the vehicle maintenance trade and look forward to the support of the trade.

RVM Newsletter will continue to be published on a quarterly basis to maintain liaison with the vehicle maintenance trade. To make RVM Newsletter more interesting and readable, the Editorial Working Group will add to the future issues some technical or training information related to vehicles (e.g. the latest technology of electric vehicles, e-learning platforms, etc.), and will liaise with training institutes so as to provide more information on technology and training to the trade. The Editorial Working Group firmly believes that there are hidden talented people in the trade and thus urge all of you to share with us your tips, views or expertise regarding vehicle maintenance by contributing articles. Once your articles are successfully published, you will receive a letter of thanks from the Editorial Working Group and earn two hours of continuing professional development.

Finally, on behalf of RVM Newsletter Editorial Working Group, I wish the vehicle maintenance industry more success and greater progress, and for the members of the trade, every success and good health in the Year of the Rooster!

Table 1: List of Members of the 6th VMTAC (with the term of office from 1 June 2016 to 31 May 2018)

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (Chairman)	Mr WONG Teck-sun, Alexander (professional institution)	Dr LEE Yiu-pui, Ringo (professional institution)	Mr CHAN Ho-man (trade association)
Mr HUI Kin-wah (workers union)	Mr CHONG Tse-keung (workers union)	Mr TAM Kum-fai (workers union)	Mr LEE Chi-hung (workers union)
Mr FUNG Man-keung (training institute)	Mr TANG Wing-hong, Madison (training institute)	Mr YIP Sui-pong, Ponthey (training institute)	Dr LAU Kin-chun (independent person)
Mr YEUNG Ka-wo (trade association)	Mr WONG Kin-fai (trade association)	Mr LAM Hing-cheong (trade association)	Mr LIU Keung (vehicle owners' association)
Mr SO Hing-shun (transport operator)	Mr FUNG Ka-fai, Vincent (transport operator)	Representative from Transport Department (government department)	Representative from Environmental Protection Department (government department)

Table 2: List of Co-opted Members of the VMTAC

Mr WONG Koon-wai, Max (professional institution)	Mr MOK Chi-fai (trade association)	Mr CHAN Kwok-tin (trade association)
Mr COKE Tak-shing, Jacky (trade association)	Mr LEE Ping-sun (trade association)	Mr TANG Ching-liong (trade association)

WONG Teck-sun, Alexander Chief Editor





Voluntary Registration Schemes for Vehicle Mechanics and Vehicle Maintenance Workshops

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department launched the Voluntary Registration Scheme for Vehicle Mechanics (VRSVM) and the Voluntary Registration Scheme for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops (VRSVMW) in January 2007 and July 2015 respectively, aiming to recognise the qualification and competence of vehicle mechanics and enhance the service quality and image of vehicle maintenance workshops. With the support of the trade, the respective participation rates of the VRSVM and the VRSVMW are currently over 80% and 70% (calculated in terms of the number of mechanics employed), fully reflecting the support of the trade for the two registration schemes.

With the commencement of the new term of the Vehicle Maintenance Technical Advisory Committee (VMTAC), the disuse of the criterion of "ten-year experience" as the means for qualifying as registered vehicle mechanics in end 2016, the participation rate of the VRSVMW exceeding 70%, the carrying out of a regulatory impact assessment by the Government on the feasibility of introducing mandatory registration systems for vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops, the vehicle maintenance industry is now moving forward in a more professional and regulated manner and its professional image has been further enhanced. Everyone knows that vehicle maintenance is a kind of domestic industry that cannot be relocated to and carried out in places outside Hong Kong. Such trade structure is considered as our advantage. Nevertheless, according to the relevant information, the number of mechanics aged 40 or below accounts for about 27% of the total number of practitioners. If the sustainability of the vehicle maintenance industry is to be maintained, it is indeed necessary for the trade to give a serious thought to how to attract more youngsters to join the industry. I believe that the introduction of mandatory registration systems for the vehicle maintenance industry (mechanics and workshops) will provide the greatest incentive to attract new blood to the industry. The concerted support from the industry is of course also a vital factor.

The introduction of mandatory registration systems is still being studied and explored, but the two existing registration schemes have already brought many benefits to the industry. As far as the vehicle maintenance industry is concerned, the two registration schemes can not only help improve the service standard and image of the industry, but can also allow the public to easily identify registered mechanics and workshops, which may in turn enhance public confidence in the industry. As for the society as a whole, the two registration schemes can improve road safety and reduce air pollution. Therefore, I appeal to mechanics and responsible persons of workshops who have yet to participate in the schemes to register early.

I hope that during the current term of the VMTAC, further progress will be made in respect of the mandatory registration systems for both vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops. I believe that the VMTAC, as a link between the industry and the Government, will continue to ensure sufficient communication between them so that the views of the industry are truthfully reflected to the latter.

Last but not least, I wish the vehicle maintenance industry every success and all the best in the Year of Rooster.

Dr LEE Yiu-pui, Ringo

Latest Developments of the Registration Schemes



Reminder: Disuse of the Criterion of "Ten-year Experience" as the Means for Qualifying as Registered Vehicle Mechanics.

The criterion of "ten-year experience" as the means for vehicle mechanics to obtain registration was disused on 31 December 2016. After that day, serving vehicle mechanics who have not yet obtained registration or not yet renewed their registration may choose to enrol on the Certificate in Vehicle Mechanical Repair or the Certificate in Vehicle Painting and Body Repair programmes# run by the Pro-Act Training and Development Centre (Automobile) of the Vocational Training Council (VTC) as another means for qualifying as registered vehicle mechanics. Mechanics who are interested in enrolling on the above programmes should provide employment proof for the last two years, fulfil the relevant educational qualification or qualification requirements and be recommended by their employers. Those who have completed all the modules with attendance of each module at 70% or above and passed the assessments will be awarded certificates by the VTC. The certificates are recognised by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) as qualifications of registered mechanics.

For details of the programmes and their latest developments, please refer to the information provided by the Pro-Act Training and Development Centre.

Web page on the programmes:

http://www.proact.edu.hk/proact/html/en/centres-and-programmes/automibile/information/index.html For enquiries, you may also contact the Pro-Act Training and Development Centre by calling 2449 1310 or e-mailing to paau@vtc.edu.hk.

- The Voluntary Registration Scheme for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops is now open for application. For details, please refer to the following web page of the EMSD:

 http://www.emsd.gov.hk/en/supporting_government_initiatives/registration_scheme_for_vehicle_maintenance/voluntary for vehicle maintenance workshops/index.html
- Members of the public may search for information on registered vehicle maintenance workshops on the following web page of the EMSD:

 http://www.emsd.gov.hk/en/supporting_government_initiatives/registration_scheme_for_vehicle_maintenance/voluntary_for_vehicle_maintenance_workshops/list_of_registered_vehicle_maintenance_workshops/index.html

Information on the number of registered vehicle mechanics:

Number of vehicle mechanics in the vehicle servicing sector in 2016 (Source: 2016 Manpower Survey Report by Automobile Training Board)	9 476
Number of registered vehicle mechanics (as of January 2017)	8 643

Information on the Voluntary Registration Scheme for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops:

Number of workshops which have applied for the Voluntary Registration Scheme for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops	1 866
Number of registered workshops (as of January 2017)	1 675

Questions for 2016 Continuing Professional Development (Quiz)



A quiz is organised by RVM Newsletter for registered vehicle mechanics every year. The questions are mainly based on the contents of the past issues. Participating registered mechanics should return the completed answer slip to the Vehicle Maintenance Registration Unit of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department for calculation of their continuing professional development (CPD) hour(s) earned.

Questions for 2016 Continuing Professional Development Quiz

Q1	The Ve experier	hicle Maintenance Technical Advisory Committee disused the criterion of "ten-year nce" as the means for vehicle mechanics to obtain registration from
	A. 3	 30 December 2016
	B. 3	31 December 2016
	C. 1	1 January 2017
	D. 1	11 January 2017
Q2		ng to the Practice Guidelines for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops, the cover of a light vehicle te car maintenance workshop must not be less than how many square metres?
	-	20
	B. 5	50
	C. 8	30
	D. 1	100
Q3	which o	Practice Guidelines for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops, "maintenance services" exclude f the following services?
		oody repair
		oody painting ault diagnosis/inspection
		car beauty
Q4	Registra	ectrical and Mechanical Services Department held the Promotion Day of the Voluntary ation Scheme for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops at the Domain in Yau Tong, Kowloon
		21 July 2015
		1 April 2016
		21 May 2016
	D. 1	11 August 2016
OF	Accordi	ng to the Voluntary Registration Scheme for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops, which of the



it has committed itself to complying with the Practice Guidelines for Vehicle Maintenance

following descriptions is incorrect if a workshop has registered under the scheme?

it has employed registered vehicle mechanics

it offers inexpensive maintenance services

it has a proper maintenance area

Workshops

А. В.

C.

D.



- In the January 2016 Version of the Practice Guidelines for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops, the servicing and maintenance of LPG vehicle fuel system should be carried out by a Competent Person (Class 6) or a person under the supervision of a Competent Person (Class 6) as specified in the
 - A. Code of Practice for Servicing and Maintenance of LPG Vehicle Fuel System
 - B. Guideline for LPG Fuelled Vehicles Workshop in Hong Kong
 - C. Gas Safety Tips to Domestic LPG Cylinder Users
 - D. Guideline for Revalidation of LPG Fuel Tanks for LPG Vehicles
- When did the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department launch the Voluntary Registration Scheme for Vehicle Mechanics and the Voluntary Registration Scheme for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops respectively?
 - A. 2006 and 2014
 - B. 2007 and 2015
 - C. 2007 and 2013
 - D. 2006 and 2014
- It was discussed at the 17th Meeting of the Working Group on the Category of Electric Vehicle and Hybrid Vehicle Maintenance Mechanics that whether a dedicated maintenance category should be introduced under the existing classification system of registered mechanics to allow the trade and the public to easily identify registered mechanics servicing electric and hybrid vehicles. What is the dedicated category proposed to be introduced?
 - A. dedicated category for maintenance of electric and hybrid vehicles
 - B. dedicated category for maintenance of electric vehicles
 - C. dedicated category for maintenance of hybrid vehicles
 - D. dedicated category for maintenance of electric coaches
- Which piece of the following legislation is not directly related to the safety of vehicle maintenance workshops?
 - A. Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance (Cap. 59 of Laws of Hong Kong)
 - B. Gas Safety Ordinance (Cap. 51 of Laws of Hong Kong)
 - C. Employees' Compensation Ordinance (Cap. 282 of Laws of Hong Kong)
 - D. Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance (Cap. 509 of Laws of Hong Kong)
- O10 What is the number of registered vehicle mechanics as of January 2017?
 - A. 6 811
 - B. 6 531
 - C. 7 758
 - D. 8 643



2016 Continuing Professional Development (Quiz) Answer Slip

To : Vehicle Maintenance Registration Unit

Fax No. : 3521 1565

E-mail : vmru@emsd.gov.hk

Assessment criteria:

There are ten questions in total. Participants who give correct answers to four to six questions earn one continuing professional development (CPD) hour. Those who give correct answers to seven questions or above earn two CPD hours.

How to participate:

Please complete the form below, with the correct answers circled, and send it to the Vehicle Maintenance Registration Unit of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department by fax or e-mail as soon as possible. The Unit will give a reply to every participant upon completion of assessment, confirming the CPD hour(s) he/she earns.

Question	Answer				
1	Α	В	С	D	
2	A	В	С	D	
3	Α	В	С	D	
4	Α	В	С	D	
5	Α	В	С	D	
6	Α	В	С	D	
7	Α	В	С	D	
8	Α	В	С	D	
9	Α	В	С	D	
10	Α	В	С	D	

Name:	
Vehicle Mechanic Registration No: VM	
E-mail Address:	
Contact Tel. No.:	

E-learning Training Courses



Professional Courses on Automotive Digitisation

The Institute of the Motor Industry Hong Kong is one of the institutes recognised by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department which provide continuing education courses on automobiles. The Institute is organising a series of automotive e-learning courses in conjunction with the Electude Company of the Netherlands. Enrolment will be called for every month with no class size limit. Online guidance and assessments are available during the learning period. Participants will receive a CPD certificate on completion of a course.

As the world's leading professional courses on automotive digitisation, Argo e-learning courses provide professional knowledge training and drills for automotive mechanics through online interactive courses. The courses meet the overall teaching and training standards of the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation, the Institute of the Motor Industry and Europe. With diagrams and illustrations, Argo enables the participants to understand the construction and principles of automobiles. It also enhances their skills in automotive repair and maintenance with the aid of interactive animations and virtual simulation technologies.



Website: http://www.hkimi.org.hk/imi/train1.asp



Enrolment Form: /imi/admin/textbox/attached/file/20150805/20150805105597339733.doc

For enquiries, please contact the Secretariat Office of the Institute of the Motor Industry Hong Kong: E-mail: hkimi@hkimi.org.hk or tel.: 2625 5903

Information on Engine Lubricating Oil



A vehicle cannot run without fuel. Nevertheless, apart from fuel, engine lubricating oil is also a lifeline for a vehicle.

Engine lubricating oil is used to lubricate the moving parts of an engine so as to reduce the friction among these parts and carry away the heat generated as they rotate, thereby ensuring that the engine runs smoothly, steadily and quietly and is free from overheating.

In the case where the engine lubricating oil used is not suitable or inadequate as to render it impossible to lubricate the rotating parts, rattling and sharp noise from the engine will be generated. Hence choosing a suitable engine lubricating oil will give more effective protection to the engine.

Among the types of engine lubricating oil currently available in the market, conventional engine oil and synthetic engine oil are more commonly found. A comparison between the two is as follows:



	Conventional Engine Oil	Synthetic Engine Oil
Price	cheaper	more expensive
High-temperature Stability	more likely to be affected by high temperature and becomes unstable	more stable at high temperature
Work Cycle/Life Span	shorter	longer
Volatility	higher	lower, can stabilise the engine temperature better
Environment-friendliness	less environment-friendly	more environment-friendly

To sum up, conventional engine oil is cheaper but synthetic engine oil performs better in terms of high-temperature stability, life span, heat dissipation and environment-friendliness. In the long run, using synthetic engine oil is beneficial for both the engine and the vehicle and is more effective. You may consider switching to synthetic engine oil at the next oil change.

The American Petroleum Institute (API) classifies common synthetic engine oil into different categories as set out below:

Category	Characteristic	
API SN	 It was introduced in October 2010. It can provide improved high temperature deposit protection for pistons and turbochargers. It can provide more stringent sludge control and seal compatibility. It can prevent the petrol from damaging the engine even though there is leakage. It can enhance the compatibility of emission control system, and effectively protect the emission control system of an engine and engines operating on E85 ethanol-containing fuel. In the long run, it can reduce fuel consumption and save fuel costs. 	Havoline ProDS Fully Synthetic SAE 5W-40 more than technology engines. Its Deposit Shield® Technology API SN: ACEA A3/64, A3/65, Bank Longine CT; Makapenes 220 do for oil has caused skin careful isoaked chemistrative representative responsite in the propose of used oil in arrivation phone creative representative responsite or Cerear Stronger Consecutive Consecutiv
API SM	 It was introduced in 2004 for 2010 and older vehicle engines. It can provide improved oxidation resistance, improved deposit protection, better wear protection and better low-temperature performance. 	MAX POWER SAE 10W/40 API SM/CF SMAN TO THE SMAN TO T
API SL	It is suitable for 2001 and older model vehicle engines.	
API SJ	It is suitable for 2001 and older model vehicle engines.	

The Car Owner's Manual only requires the use of API SJ or SL engine oil, but in the light of the above, you may consider using API SM or SN engine oil as these two categories can provide more comprehensive protection.

Prize Quiz (Issue No. 16)



Q1	Whe	en was	the Ve	hicle N	∕lainter	nance Technical Ad	visory Committee established?
Q I	Α	June	e 2005	<u>,</u>		C	May 2006
	В	Apri	1 2006	6		D	January 2007
Q2			e app	roxima	•	centage of mecha	nics aged 40 or below against the total
	Α	20%	ó			C	32%
	В	27%	ś			D	37%
Q3		ch of tine oil?	he foll	owing	is not	a difference between	een conventional engine oil and synthetic
	A.	conver	ntional	engine	e oil is	more expensive	
	B.	synthe	tic enç	gine oil	has a	longer work cycle/	ife span
	C.	synthe	tic enç	gine oil	is mor	e environment-friei	ndly
		conver unstab		engine	e oil is	more likely to be at	fected by high temperature and becomes
04	Whe	n did t	he Am	erican	Petrole	um Institute introdu	uce API SN engine lubricating oil?
G(T	Α	Octo	ber 20	001		C	October 2010
	В	Janu	uary 20	010		D	October 2011
Q5	Wha	nt is the	numb	er of r	egister	ed vehicle maintena	nce workshops as of January 2017?
QU	Α	251				C	1 607
	В	821				D	1 675
Please Regis Dead	e con tration line: 3	Unit by April 20	ne form fax or 017	n below e-mail (, with t	-	ircled, and send it to the Vehicle Maintenance u@emsd.gov.hk).
Quest			Ans			Name:	
Q1		A	В	C	_ <u>D</u> _	Vahiala Maahamia D	- windowski a ur Nia a N/M
Q 2		<u>A</u>	В	C	_ <u>D</u> _	Vehicle Mechanic Re	egistration No.: <u>vivi</u>
Q3		A	В	C	D D	E-mail Address:	
Q4 Q5		A	B B	C	D		
						Contact Tel. No.:	ers will be decided by lottery if more than ten participants give
corr — Only — The — The	ect ans registed decision correct	swers to al ered vehic on of the V	I the que le mecha ehicle Ma and list o	stions. inics with aintenance f prize wir	valid regis e Registra nners will	stration may participate, eac tion Unit on the quiz answe be announced in the next is	ch not more than once in each quiz.

Results of the prize quiz in RVM Newsletter Issue No. 15

The answers of the prize quiz in RVM Newsletter Issue No. 15 are as follows:

Question 1 2 3 4 5

Answer D C B A D

The ten winners who gave correct answers to all the questions and drawn by lottery are:

MOK Chi-fai (VM 0036008) LI Lai-kin (VM 0024342) LAM Chun-man (VM 0048695) WONG Ka-bo (VM 0048684) MEN Kuen-wai (VM 0056219) LAU Chun-wai (VM 0019980) LO Ho-wing (VM 0048862) LEE Hok-ling (VM 0056458) WONG Man-kit (VM 0018215) LO Wai-man (VM 0065768)

Training Institutes



Providing Continuing Professional Development Courses for Vehicle Mechanics (in random order)

Name of Training Institute	Website/Contents	Enquiry Tel. No.	
Traffic Services Employees Association	https://www.facebook.com/tseahk	2575 5544	
Pro-Act Training and Development Centre (Automobile)	http://www.pro-act.edu.hk/automobile	2449 1310	
The Institute of the Motor Industry Hong Kong	http://www.hkimi.org.hk The Institute is organising a series of automotive e-learning courses in conjunction with the Electude Company of the Netherlands. Enrolment will be called for every month. Online guidance and assessments are available during the learning period. Participants will receive a CPD certificate on completion of a course. For details, please visit the above website or call the enquiry telephone number.	2625 5903	
Hong Kong Vehicle Repair Merchants Association Limited	http://www.hkvrma.com.hk/ training/index.html	2399 7977	
Hong Kong Vehicle Repairing Industry Employee General Union	http://www.vrunion.hk/	2626 1927	
Occupational Safety and Health Council	https://eform.oshc.org.hk/course/tchi/course/CourseDetail.asp?CouID=463	2311 3322	
The Society of Operations Engineers (Hong Kong Region)	http://www.soe.org.hk/events.asp	2617 0311	
Courses recognised by Qualifications Framework (QF)	http://www.hkqr.gov.hk	2836 1700	回線回



Gentle Reminder

The current issue of RVM Newsletter includes the annual continuing professional development quiz.

Please watch out for each issue: it helps you catch up on the development of the registration scheme, acquire hours of continuing professional development, and enhance the quality of service.

Each issue can be downloaded from the EMSD website at:

http://www.emsd.gov.hk/en/supporting_government_initiatives/registration_scheme_for_vehicle_maintenance/publications_and_circulars/rvm_newsletter/index.html

RVM Newsletter QR Code



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