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On 14th July 2018 DVSA introduced a plain paper MOT certificate and at the same time announced that they will no longer produce a trailer MOT disc.

In addition, DVSA have now made MOT history for HGV, PSV and Trailers available online at <https://www.gov.uk/check-mot-history>, making it easy for operators to check MOT expiry dates should they need to do so. DVSA have also advised the Police and their own enforcement colleagues in Northern Ireland of these changes.


Certificates will now be referred to as 'MOTs' rather than annual tests and there is a new 'refusal to issue a MOT certificate' which replaces the test card (PG14). Information that was previously on the test card will be moved onto the relevant pages on gov.uk.

DVSA have updated the hardware for their vehicle standard assessors so that they all have the latest printer, and they have all been provided with a stock of paper and extra print cartridges. However, in the event of IT failure a contingency process has been put in place, allowing the Vehicle Standards Assessor (VSA) to hand write a certificate (on a new style template) or certificates can be emailed to the Authorised Test Facility for the VSA to sign.

TRAILER MOT CHECK

So, with the trailer disc abolished how do drivers check to ensure the trailer they are collecting has a valid MOT?

As the information is now available on-line, instruct your drivers to enter www.gov.uk/check-mot-history in to their browser & then save the gov.uk page to their Home Screen for future use.

When on **Check the MOT history of a vehicle**, click  and enter the Trailer ID number (i.e. **C123456**).

The next screen will show the **Date of Registration** and more importantly the **Annual test valid until** date (see sample).

To evidence the trailer MOT check, instruct your drivers to take a screen shot of the appropriate page as this will show time and date the check was conducted.

Try it for yourself, it only takes seconds.

To help the driver complete his first use inspection, consider making the trailer ID clearly visible to the driver by noting the details on a sticker or plate or other indicator attached to the trailer i.e. located securely on the trailer headboard, this could also include the last date of inspection.

REMEMBER, the user of the towing vehicle is responsible for the roadworthiness of the trailer even if it does not belong to them, therefore, doing this simple check could prevent enforcement action which could have a serious impact on your operator licence and good repute.

Sample Screen Shot

Check-mot-service.gov.uk

C123456

A N HAULAGE

[Check another vehicle](#)

Colour
Not applicable

Fuel type
Not applicable

Date registered
14 July 2010

Annual test valid until
31 August 2019