

## *Permanent Trailer Identification Program*

### **29.000 Introduction**

Under the Permanent Trailer Identification (PTI) program, most trailers are issued a PTI plate and a permanent identification card rather than a regular trailer plate. They are subject to a maintenance service fee every five years rather than annual renewal.

**NOTE:** Tow dollies, converter gears, and auxiliary dollies may be in the PTI program, but it is not required.

### **29.010 Dealer License Required**

A dealer license is required to sell new or used trailers.

### **29.020 Trailers Excluded from the PTI Program**

The following trailers are excluded from the PTI program. They are issued a regular trailer plate and subject to annual registration renewal:

- Trailer coaches (body type CCH)
- Coach boat trailers (body type CCHBT)
- Park trailers (body type CCHPT)
- Park trailer boats (body type CCHPTBT)

### **29.030 PTI Titling Options**

A Certificate of Title is not automatically issued to PTI trailers unless there is a legal owner/lienholder. Instead, the department issues a Permanent Trailer Identification Card and maintains an electronic record of ownership. If a sole owner of a PTI trailer desires a paper Certificate of Title, it must be requested by submitting a completed and signed Permanent Trailer Identification (PTI) Certification (REG 4017, side A) and a Paper Title fee.

**29.040 Permanent Trailer Identification (PTI) Certification (REG 4017)**

The Permanent Trailer Identification (PTI) Certification (REG 4017) is a two-sided form used for trailers registered in the PTI Program.

*Side A* is completed and signed by sole owners requesting a paper title.

*Side B* is an application for:

- Transfer of ownership for a PTI trailer if a paper title was not issued (excluding ELTs). The transfer may be a registered owner transfer or a release of security interest by the legal owner/lienholder only.
- Adding a legal owner/lienholder.

**29.050 Dealer Posting of PTI Fees**

The PTI fee may be posted for any PTI trailer entering this state that is not licensed, registered, titled, or issued identification that will be placed in dealer inventory to be sold. A Nonresident Commercial Vehicle Trip Permit (REG 41) may be purchased.

**NOTE:** Posting the PTI fee or purchasing a trip permit allows the trailer to enter the state without the dealer obtaining PTI registration in the dealer's name. PTI registration in the dealer's name would prevent sale of the trailer as a new trailer.

**29.060 Original Application for PTI**

Requirements to register a trailer in the PTI program for the first time:

- Titling documents. For example:
  - Out-of-state title.
  - California Application for Registration of New Vehicle (REG 397).
  - Manufacturer's Statement of Origin.
  - California Certificate of Title.
- Application for Title or Registration (REG 343).
- Vehicle Verification (reverse side of the REG 343).
- Statement of Facts (REG 256) declaring the unladen weight, unless it is certified by the dealer on the REG 397.
- Original PTI fee.

If there is not a legal owner/lienholder, and a paper Certificate of Title is desired, the following must also be submitted:

- A completed and signed Permanent Trailer Identification (PTI) Certification (REG 4017, side A).
- Paper Certificate of Title fee.

**29.070 Transfer of Ownership**

Requirements to transfer ownership of a PTI trailer:

**Trailers with an electronic title record:**

- A completed and signed Permanent Trailer Identification (PTI) Certification (REG 4017, side B).
- PTI transfer fee.

**Trailers with a paper Certificate of Title:**

- The properly endorsed Certificate of Title **or** a completed and signed Application for Duplicate Title (REG 227).
- PTI transfer fee.
- Paper certificate of title fee (if a paper title is requested by the new owner).

**29.080 PTI Maintenance Service Fee**

PTI trailers must pay a maintenance service fee every five years to maintain the record on the DMV database. A computer-generated billing notice for the service fee will be mailed about 90 days prior to the due date. After payment, a receipt will be issued reflecting the word "PERM" instead of PTI "expiration" date. The receipt does not need to be kept with the trailer. A new PTI identification card will **not** be issued. A Planned Non-Operation (PNO) may be filed instead of paying the service fee.

**29.090 Special Plates**

If a personalized or special interest license plate is assigned to a PTI trailer, an annual renewal notice will be generated for the special license plate renewal fee.

**29.100 PTI Fleets**

PTI fleet owners may submit PTI service fee notices for bulk processing in bundles of 250 or less. A separate check is required for each bundle. The original notice is required for each trailer; photocopies or listings are not acceptable.

