New BTM for Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles

New Legislation
A new body type model (BTM) “RO” was created for recreational off-highway vehicles (ROVs).

An ROV has:
- A steering wheel for steering control.
- Nonstraddle (bucket or bench) seats for the operator and all passengers.
- A maximum speed capability of greater than 30 miles per hour.
- An engine displacement equal to or less than 1000cc.

Procedures
When registering an original off-highway vehicle (OHV), continue to follow current procedures in Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual (VIRP), Chapter 15. If the application is for an ROV:
- Use BTM “RO” and body type code (BTC) “Y.”
- Fees are due for the appropriate indicia issued.

If the ROV is amphibious and requires dual registration (OHV and vessel):
- Follow current procedures in VIRP Manual, Chapter 27 when a completed Application for Registration Number Certificate of Ownership and Certificate of Undocumented Vessel (BOAT 101) form is submitted.
- Process the OHV application first.
- Use BTM “AP” (amphibian) for the OHV application and vessel type “A” (amphibious) for the vessel application.

**NOTE:** A California Certificate of Title is issued only to OHVs for dual registration.

Background
The VIN 2016-01 Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles vs. All-Terrain Vehicles memo created confusion for dealers who register all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and ROVs, so a new BTM was created.

Distribution
Notification that this memo is available online, at www.dmv.ca.gov under Publications was made via California DMV’s Automated E-mail Alert System in May 2016.

References
- California Vehicle Code §§111 and 500
- Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual, Chapters 15 and 27
- VIN 2016-01 Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles vs. All-Terrain Vehicles
Contact
Call the DMV Customer Communications Section, at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo. Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.

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