

Submission 21 – MVSA Review 2014

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing this submission to the Department for consideration regarding the loosening of restrictions concerning the personal importation of motor vehicles. My understanding is that the Department is considering allowing persons in Australia to order a complying new vehicle from an overseas source on-line and have it shipped to Australia.

As you may be aware, the cost of hiring a vehicle while on holiday overseas can be an expensive exercise, particularly in Europe and the UK. On my travels in the past I have noticed the price of vehicles in other countries and mused that an opportunity existed to purchase a vehicle overseas, use it while on holiday and then ship it home for use back in Australia. The dream quickly evaporated in the face of the restrictions surrounding the obtaining of an Authority to Import a Vehicle (AIV). I am hoping, therefore, the department considers allowing the review of vehicle import arrangements to favour new vehicles purchased and used by a person while on holiday overseas.

Further to this, I am hoping that similar favour may be extended to some used vehicles purchased overseas and shipped to Australia. I am aware that the Department is concerned that allowing widespread importation of used vehicles may degrade the quality of the Australian fleet. However, I believe the arrangements set out below may perhaps go some way in addressing those concerns.

I would suggest that the restriction on obtaining an AIV that requires a person to have owned and operated a vehicle overseas for a period of at least 12 months be waived in the following circumstances:

- The manufacture date of the vehicle is no more than 5 years earlier than the date it arrives at an Australian port (with some discretion allowed to account for unforeseen circumstances such as shipping delays);
- The vehicle has been purchased from a registered motor dealer/trader in the country of origin and that it carries the relevant quality assurance documentation from the country of origin (the MOT Certificate used in the UK for example);
- That the vehicle complies with all Australian Design Regulations (ADRs) not addressed under the State based registration arrangements;
- That a vehicle only be allowed to be registered to the person who has obtained the AIV and that a person is only allowed to obtain an AIV once in every two year period (this is to discourage the widespread importation of used vehicles by commercial operations in Australia).

I hope you will give this submission due consideration in determining the nature of any changes to the arrangements applying to the personal importation of motor Vehicles.

Yours sincerely,

Ross Kelly