

HOMOLOGATION OF A SELF-BUILD CAMPERVAN

Any panel van that is converted into a campervan needs to be registered with NATIS as a Self-Propelled Caravan through the offices of NRCS (National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications).

The process involves a bit of running around, quite a bit of paperwork and an inspection.

Download the document below - ALA. The documents include the application form and the ALA document details the entire procedure. As a quick overview...

You will need:

- Copy of applicant's ID document, and a letter of Proxy in the case of a company or organization.
- Affidavit for built-up vehicle - including engine and VIN (chassis) numbers, and full details of the work carried out and type and source of major and especially safety critical components. This must be stamped and signed off by a member of the South African Police Services.
- Request for Police identification – RPI – or Police Clearance. *Take originals and copies of your vehicle papers and ID to the licencing department – they will prepare a 2 page document which you take to the Police Clearance yard – they will check your VIN & engine numbers and microdots. It helps if you know where to find your VIN & engine numbers. Once the Police have signed and stamped your RPC document you send this to NRCS – you do not need to return to the Licencing Department at this stage.*
- Road Worthy Certificate – and Inspection Report from the RWC test station – must be in date at the time of application. *Get this last – if there is a delay with any of your other paperwork, it may expire and then you have to get another one. Also, ensure that the Inspector changes your classification on the NATIS system to “caravan”.*
- Weigh Bridge Certificate & Affidavit from the testing station.
- On trailers above 750 kg and all heavy vehicles a static or dynamic Brake Report must be submitted together with the application. The NRCS will advise the applicant if a dynamic test is required, consisting of the following:
 - a) Braking capability per wheel
 - b) Difference per wheel
 - c) Speed of roller
- At least two (3) photographs of vehicle showing the full rear, side and front views.
- Photograph of the data plate on the vehicle – this is not listed on the paperwork, but they will ask for it.
- Proof of Payment of R1800.

Email all the documents to the NRCS. They will contact you in time to arrange for a visual inspection of the vehicle. Once done and approved, they will either courier you the documents or you can arrange to collect them (courier service is at a fee). Then it's off to your Licencing Authority armed with all your paperwork to get your new disc 🚗

Should you require an annual roadworthy or two licence discs for your panel van, you are not exempt from these requirements while your application is in process.