

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES VEHICULES ANCIENS (FIVA)



Protecting, Preserving and Promoting
the use of Historic Vehicles

2026

FIVA TECHNICAL CODE



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INTRODUCTION

The **Fédération Internationale des Véhicules Anciens (FIVA)** is the worldwide non-governmental organisation dedicated to the preservation, protection and promotion of Historic Vehicles and related culture. FIVA has been a non-governmental partner of UNESCO since April 2017.

The Technical Code defines a Historic Vehicle in the spirit of FIVA, provides guidelines to document Historic Vehicles and describes the requirements under which a FIVA Registration Number and a FIVA Identity Card or a Youngtimer Registration Document may be issued.

The aim of the FIVA Card program is to document and safeguard motoring heritage for current and future generations and to provide owners with an accurate (but, not infallible) independently reviewed and prepared document of the Historic Vehicle's identity and history.

1. VEHICLE DEFINITIONS & FIVA CARDS

A FIVA Card may be issued to vehicles described in items 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4.

1.1. **Vehicles.**

A vehicle is a self-propelled land vehicle which is moved by its own means, commonly wheeled, that does not operate on rails. It is used for the transport of persons or goods or as mobile machinery which is constructed specially to perform work.

1.2. **Side cars and trailers**

These are any non-self-propelled vehicle which are designed and constructed to be towed by a vehicle.

1.3. **Historic Vehicle.**

A vehicle which

Is at least 30 years old.

Is preserved and maintained in a historically correct condition.

Is not used as means of daily transport.

Is therefore a part of our technical and cultural heritage.

1.4. **Youngtimer Vehicle.**

A vehicle which

Is between 20 and 29 years of age.

Is in good condition and preservation.

Is usually used during leisure time.

May become eligible for a FIVA Identity Card upon reaching 30-years of age.

2. OTHER DEFINED TERMS

2.1. **ANF** (Autorité Nationale FIVA)

is the FIVA National Authority representing FIVA in a certain country and is the sole bearer of all FIVA rights and obligations in that country (see FIVA Statutes).

2.2. **Build Year**

is the year the vehicle was completed.

The specific date completed, may differ from the manufacturer's model year designation and from the date of the first registration in a country e.g., 1970 Mustang completed in November 1969.

2.3. **A FIVA Card**

is a standardized international document prepared by FIVA and issued by the ANF or the FIVA Technical Commission.

2.4. **Identification Number**

is the unique unaltered number assigned to the vehicle by the Manufacturer/Constructor.

Note: The term "number" used throughout this document includes numeric, alphanumeric (e.g., A543Y2)

hyphen (-)

full stop (.)

stroke (/).

for any other special character stamped use asterisk (*).

2.5. **Make**

is typically the trade name, brand or name used by the Manufacturer/Constructor at the time of construction.

2.6. **Manufacturer/Constructor**

is an entity or person who developed the concept and built or assembled the vehicle.

2.7. **Model, Series and Type**

are the designations, when available, that were used by the Manufacturer/Constructor at the time of construction.

2.8. **Chassis/Frame Number**

is the unique unaltered number assigned to the chassis or the frame of the vehicle by the Manufacturer/Constructor.

2.9. **Body Number**

is the unique unaltered number assigned to the body of the vehicle by the Manufacturer/Constructor.

2.10. Engine Number

is the unique unaltered number assigned to the engine of the vehicle by the Manufacturer/Constructor.

2.11. Modifications

are all deviations from the condition and specifications of the vehicle as delivered from the Manufacturer/Constructor to the first user.

2.11.1. Accessories

An additional component that has been fitted to the vehicle, after it has been delivered new by the Manufacturer/Constructor. This component should be fitted without any modifications and must not replace any of the original components of the vehicle.

2.12. Modifying Entity (Company / Modifier)

is an entity or person that takes the place of the Manufacturer/Constructor if he/she/it changes the concept of the vehicle and / or its main components substantially.

2.13. Period

is the time frame that the vehicle was in general use.

For the purposes of FIVA, the duration of the Period starts from the Build Year of the vehicle plus fifteen (15) years (e.g., if the Build Year = 1960 then the Period is from 1960 to 1975).

Due to World War II, the duration of the Period is increased to twenty (20) years if the Build Year of a vehicle is from 1925 to 1945.

The Period duration may also be increased under special circumstances (e.g. due to war, embargo, etc.).

2.14. Vehicle Inspection

It is a requirement that vehicles and their supporting documentation must be inspected by a FIVA or ANF appointed scrutineer whose task it is to verify that the information given on the form by the applicant is correct.

The scrutineer may be assisted by an independent specialist or restorer, but the scrutineer is an official FIVA person and is therefore responsible for correct data.

2.15. Virtual Inspection

In some exceptional cases, a virtual inspection can be proceeded subject to the approval of the FIVA Technical Commission, by using the appropriate technical tools.

2.16. Scrutineer

The scrutineer examines the vehicle to verify the information provided by the applicant. He/she must be competent, fair, honest and reasonable when examining the vehicle and may provide additional information and documentation.

In order to carry out the inspection with the maximum objectivity, the scrutineer cannot be the owner or a relative of the owner. He/she/it can neither be the restorer nor the vendor of the vehicle.

3. FIVA REGISTRATION NUMBER (FRN)

The FIVA Registration Number is a unique and permanent number associated with a single Vehicle, issued assigned by FIVA. This number will remain related to the vehicle for ever.

4. FIVA IDENTITY CARD & YOUNGTIMER REGISTRATION DOCUMENT

For common understanding, the above mentioned FIVA Identity Card and Youngtimer Registration Document will be referred to as a FIVA Card in the following sections.

The basic colour of the **FIVA Identity Card** is **Green**.

The basic colour of the **FIVA Youngtimer Registration Document** is **Yellow**.

- 4.1. **The FIVA Card** is a standardised international document prepared by FIVA that summarises the identity, technical specifications and history of a specific vehicle at the time of issuance.
- 4.2. FIVA may, upon application, issue a FIVA Card to owners of vehicles that comply with the requirements of the Technical Code.
The FIVA Card always remains the property of FIVA.
- 4.3. A FIVA Card is evidence of a vehicle's registration with FIVA.
A FIVA Identity Card is issued for a Historic Vehicle as described in 1.3.
A FIVA Youngtimer Registration Document is issued for a Youngtimer Vehicle as described in 1.4.
- 4.4. The FIVA Card number is a unique document number.
During its lifetime, a Vehicle may have multiple FIVA Cards issued and with the corresponding FIVA Card numbers, all of which will refer to the unique FIVA Registration Number (FRN) of the vehicle.
- 4.5. It is the owner's responsibility to provide demonstrable evidence and information to FIVA. This is to document a vehicle and issue a FIVA Identity Card or a Youngtimer Registration Document.
- 4.6. The FIVA Card may include additional information obtained and reviewed by FIVA from other sources.

- 4.7. Due to space limitations on the FIVA Card it may be necessary to limit the information to the most important aspects for the vehicle being documented.
- 4.8. The FIVA Card is evidence of the owner's declaration of intent to continue to preserve and maintain the vehicle in a historically correct and environmentally sound manner.
- 4.9. In order to issue a FIVA Identity Card, FIVA requires a physical inspection (except 2.15) of the vehicle and report by FIVA or its authorized representative.
- 4.10. The FIVA Youngtimer Registration Document is issued from information supplied on the FIVA Registry System. The issuing ANF or the FIVA Technical Commission reserves the right to physically inspect the vehicle for verification purposes.
- 4.11. The FIVA Identity Card is valid for a maximum of 10 years from the date of issuance. The FIVA Identity Card becomes invalid if ownership is changed or any modification done within the 10-year period.
The owner may apply for a new FIVA Identity Card.
- 4.12. The FIVA Youngtimer Registration Document is valid until change of ownership, or until the vehicle reaches 30 years of age. The owner may then apply for a FIVA Identity Card.
In the case of a change of ownership, the new owner may apply for a new Youngtimer Registration Document.
- 4.13. The FIVA Card must be surrendered upon request by an authorized representative of FIVA and may be revoked by FIVA at any time.
- 4.14. The FIVA Card is issued for the owner's general use and to qualify the vehicle for certain FIVA events.
- 4.15. FIVA provides an area on the cover page of the FIVA Card which is reserved for ANF use.
- 4.16. An application will not be processed until all required information is supplied by the applicant.
- 4.17. FIVA or the designated ANF reserves the right to decline to issue a FIVA Card for any vehicle at any time.

5. VEHICLE IDENTITY

- 5.1. The most fundamental task for determining eligibility of a vehicle for issuance of a FIVA Card is to establish the accurate identity of the vehicle.

FIVA will endeavor to identify a vehicle as precisely as possible. This may differ significantly from how a vehicle may be referred to in common terms.

5.2. The chassis/frame or unibody is generally the primary bearer of the identity and history of a Vehicle.

5.3. The Vehicle Identity is a full and accurate record of the following data:

5.3.1. Manufacturer/Constructor, City, Country

5.3.2. Make, Model and Series (Type) designation

5.3.3. Identification Number

5.3.4. Build Year

Examples: Officine Alfieri Maserati S.p.A., Modena (I)
Maserati Ghibli SS Coupé (Tipo AM115/49)
AM11549.9999
1971

B.S.A. Motorcycles Limited, Birmingham (UK)
BSA Spitfire Mk. II Special (A65.2SP)
A50C0000
1966

Klöckner-Humboldt-Deutz AG, Werk Ulm (D)
Magirus-Deutz Jupiter 6x6 Z Pritschenwagen
560.0022.000
1963

5.4. If two or more vehicles claim the same identification features, separate documentation must be created for each vehicle. Each of them will be assigned a separate FIVA Registration Number (FRN).

FIVA task is to document each vehicle as thoroughly as possible on the basis of the information provided by the applicant as well as from other sources.

5.5. FIVA reserves the right to withdraw any FIVA Identity Card or Youngtimer Registration Document which was issued based on a data set which is subsequently found to be fraudulent.

5.6. It is the obligation of the owner to carefully preserve and safeguard the physical elements (e.g., stampings, markings, plates, etc.) that substantiate the identity of the vehicle.

5.7. If a vehicle is substantially modified, the previous Vehicle Identity is considered cancelled and the modifying entity will be regarded as the

Manufacturer/Constructor and the new date of completion as the Build Year.

6. VEHICLE HISTORY

6.1. An important purpose of FIVA's efforts and the FIVA Card is to document tangible and intangible elements of a vehicle's past for the benefit of current and future generations.

It is the obligation of the owner to treat a vehicle as a cultural artefact (technical and cultural heritage) and to safeguard the vehicle's historic information. The presence of historic information about a vehicle is important evidence of the vehicle's authenticity and identity.

6.2. The following elements of a vehicle's history must be documented in summary in the FIVA Card if applicable:

6.2.1. **General History:** may include but is not limited to important data such as completion date, date shipped, sales agent or dealership, date of first road registration, damage (e.g. accidents), etc.

6.2.2. **Ownership History:** Current and previous owners: This includes all previously known owners of the vehicle. As a minimum the owner must provide information concerning the prior owner. Such information, when known, will include sales dates or approximations, owner name, city, and country.

6.2.3. **Event History:** includes significant events, concours, or exhibitions (e.g. auto shows, etc.). Such information, when known, will include dates, event name, entrants, results, city and country.

7. VEHICLE MODIFICATIONS

7.1. Modifications

Modifications are all deviations from the Vehicle's Configuration when delivered new by the Manufacturer/Constructor. Vehicle Configuration refers to all material and immaterial components of a vehicle.

Modifications are to be described on the FIVA Card with the date and modifying entity (if known). Such modifications will be differentiated by their historical significance and classified into the following categories:

7.1.1. **Period** Modifications:

Modifications documented and confirmed to have been completed in Period to the vehicle in question.

7.1.2. **Period Type** Modifications:

Modifications completed out of period, of a kind which were typical in

period using parts to period specification.

7.1.3. Non-Period Type Modifications:

Modifications not used in period or made using parts or technology not available in period. Such modifications may affect the Build Year (see Vehicle Identity).

7.2. Substantially Modified vehicles

For vehicles that have been substantially modified out of period, as indicated below, the Build Year will be changed to the time that this substantially modified vehicle was completed, and the Manufacturer/ Constructor will be changed to the modifying entity.

Substantially modified vehicles are:

7.2.1.

Vehicles with chassis/frame or unibody that has been materially modified (e.g. shortened, narrowed, wheelbase changed, strengthened, etc.).

7.2.2.

Vehicles with chassis/frame or unibody that has not been materially modified, but three (3) or more of the following have been modified to Non-Period Type:

- Body
- Engine
- Drivetrain
- Steering system
- Suspension
- Breaking system

7.2.3.

Vehicles that have been converted from internal combustion engine to electric drive addition or replacement.

7.3. Documentation

It is the responsibility of the owner to carefully document modifications performed to a Historic vehicle so that future owners will know how it differs from its original and previous configuration(s).

8. GENERAL RULES & PROCEDURES

- 8.1.** The application information is stored in the FIVA Registry System.
- 8.2.** For a vehicle that is road registered, the application for a FIVA Card must be submitted to the ANF of the country of registration. An ANF cannot issue a FIVA Card for a vehicle that is road registered in another country.
- 8.3.** For a vehicle that is not road registered, the application for a FIVA Card must be submitted to the ANF of the country of primary residence of the owner.
- 8.4.** For a vehicle in a country where there is no ANF, or when the ANF temporarily cannot meet the conditions to issue FIVA Cards in a proper way, the owner must submit the application to the FIVA Technical Commission.
- 8.5.** A Classic Department of any Manufacturer pro-member of FIVA with a signed FIVA agreement will be authorized to act as an ANF only for the models of its make, if asked for directly by the applicant, to issue FIVA cards (ID and YD) worldwide.

If an application for a FIVA Card is not processed or is disputed, or the issuing of a FIVA Card is denied by an ANF, the applicant or the ANF may appeal the case to the FIVA Technical Commission.

The decision of the FIVA Technical Commission will be final.

9. OTHER.

Any further rules or decisions taken and published by the FIVA Technical Commission after the publication of this Technical Code must be considered as part of this code.

This 2026 FIVA Technical Code has been prepared by the Technical Commission and validated by the General Committee.