



# FACT SHEET

## How to interpret a motor vehicle search result and search certificate

### SEARCH RESULT

When undertaking a serial number search for a motor vehicle, you will get one of two results.

1. No registrations found – this means that there is no encumbrance registered on PPSR for that serial number.
2. Registration found – this means that there are encumbrances registered on PPSR for that serial number.

It should be noted that this refers to ‘registrations’ in the PPSR sense, for example registrations of security interests. The registration number is the PPSR registration number is the unique identification number allocated by the PPSR at the time of registration (it is approximately 15 digits in length). It is not the number plate of a vehicle (eg ABC 123).

### SEARCH CERTIFICATE

Your search certificate contains 3 main parts

1. details of your search
2. details of any registrations found
3. NEVDIS data

### DETAILS OF YOUR SEARCH

The details of your search include your

- search number
- search certificate number

You will need your search number or search certificate number if you want to retrieve your result or certificate at a later time.



### SEARCH CRITERIA

The search criteria shows the information you entered to conduct the search. If you get an unexpected result, or the details about the vehicle in the NEVDIS data don't match the vehicle you searched on, check that you entered the serial number correctly.

### DETAILS OF ANY REGISTRATIONS FOUND

If your search found no registrations, a note to this effect is included on your search certificate. The next entry on your search certificate will be the NEVDIS data.

If your search found one or more registrations, the details of these registrations are included on your search certificate. These details include:

- Registration details – for example the PPSR registration number and start and end dates
- Collateral details – the details about the vehicle, and how the interest is held in the vehicle
- Secured party details – the person or organisation who holds the interest in the vehicle
- Address for service – how to contact the secured party
- History summary – details of any amendments to the registration



### NEVDIS DATA

NEVDIS is the National Exchange of Vehicle and Driver Information System. The data in NEVDIS is provided by the state motor registries and other government agencies.

The PPSR system obtains vehicle description, vehicle registration (plate) information and stolen/written off status from NEVDIS. PPSR does not store or maintain that data – it is maintained by NEVDIS and merely





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passed through by PPSR. Accordingly, PPSR search results provides only the information that NEVDIS provides in response to a message request from PPSR.

NEVDIS does not return vehicle identification information in relation to a vehicle that was never registered.

- If no NEVDIS data is returned for the serial number you entered, this means that the serial number you entered is not recorded on NEVDIS. You may need to check that you entered the serial number correctly. It may also mean that the vehicle has never been registered.

- If the NEVDIS data does not match the vehicle you are looking at, investigate whether you have entered the serial number correctly. If you have entered it correctly, investigate the vehicle or with the state motor registries or police.

Stolen Vehicles – "no data" indicates there is no NEVDIS data to indicate the vehicle has been stolen.

Written Off Indicator - "no data" indicates there is no NEVDIS data to indicate the vehicle has been written off.

The NEVDIS data also includes a number of explanatory notes. Please make sure you read these notes, as they relate to the data provided.

**Important: All queries regarding the accuracy of stolen vehicle information should be directed to the state police; queries regarding the accuracy of any other vehicle information should be directed to the state motor registries.**

**PPS National Service Centre cannot provide any assistance in correcting this data.**



## SEARCH RESULT PAGE

The following sentence appears on the search results page:

*As this search was performed during the transitional period, not all registrations may be on the register.*

*Please note that during the transitional period there may be existing transitional security interests which are not on the register. For further information, please see [Glossary - transitional registrations](#).*

These sentences refer to transitional security interests, which are security interests that related to a security agreement that was made prior to 30 January 2012. Generally, these registrations enjoy temporary perfection for two years from 30 January 2012. In the case of motor vehicles most of these would have be registered on the State Registers of Encumbered Vehicles/Vehicle Security Registers and migrated to the PPSR.

## PROFESSIONAL ADVICE RECOMMENDED

This fact sheet provides general information about Personal Property Securities Act and Register and does not constitute legal advice.

Seeking professional advice in relation to the specific issues affecting your business is recommended.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the 'Ask the Registrar' page at [www.ppsr.gov.au](http://www.ppsr.gov.au)

Contact the ITSA National Service Centre

Phone: 130000PPSR (1300 007 777)

Email: [enquiries@ppsr.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@ppsr.gov.au)

