

Correct as at 25th October 2013. It may be superseded at any time.

Extract taken: from NZTA Vehicle Portal > VIRMs > Light vehicle repair certification > General repairs > Water damage

9-1 Water damage

Reasons for rejection

1. A safety-related component, part or system has not been inspected and replaced as described in **Table 9-1-1**.
2. A body panel has not had all water contamination and residue removed from its cavities and the vehicle's corrosion protection restored.
3. During the inspection of a vehicle there is evidence found that the vehicle has been water damaged and it has not been recorded as water damaged by the NZTA.
4. The vehicle has not been treated as though it has been fully immersed in water contaminated with silt and/or corrosive salts.
5. A body panel or structure has water contamination or residue.
6. Corrosion protection has not been restored as near as is practicable to the OE specifications.
7. The manufacturer's repair procedures have not been followed for all replacement parts, components or systems.
8. An item in the far right-hand column of **Table 9-1-1** that has been retained has not been certified as within safe tolerance by the manufacturer or an approved agent.

Note 1

If there is conclusive evidence to support that the vehicle has not been fully immersed and a deviation from the requirements of **Table 9-1-1** is sought this must be presented to the Operations Support section at the NZTA and permission granted to deviate from the requirements listed the table.

Note 2

The repair certifier must retain documented proof of all replacement components with the vehicle file.

Note 3

Components that are not designed to be stripped must be replaced.

Note 4

Where any component is retained and requires inspection, a record of this must be retained by the repair certifier with the vehicle file.

Note 5

The repair certifier must contact the NZTA if the repair certifier notes at any stage that the vehicle has been subjected to water damage and that the vehicle is not noted in Landata as being water damaged.

Note 6

A repair certifier must complete a LT308 indicating that the water damage to the vehicle has been assessed in accordance with the **VIRM: Light vehicle repair certification** and repairs have been completed to the required standard. Files relating to water damage assessment will be audited during the normal **performance review system**.

Note 7

[Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Standards Compliance 2002](#), defines water damage as, in relation to a vehicle, damage to a vehicle's critical safety system as a result of exposure to water.

Table 9-1-1. Water damaged vehicle safety related components

Part	Action		
	Component can be replaced with non-used genuine components	Component can be replaced with used components	The original components can be reused after being stripped, inspected and tested by the manufacturer or an approved representative
Front seatbelt assemblies	•	•	•1
Rear seatbelt assemblies	•	•	•1
Seatbelt pre-tensioners	•	•	
Driver's airbag	•	•2	
Passenger's airbag	•	•2	
Side airbags	•	•2	
Other airbags	•	•2	
SRS control module	•	•	
SRS sensor(s)	•	•	
SRS wiring loom	•	•	
SRS relay(s)	•	•	
SRS clockspring	•	•	
ECU (incorporating SRS function)	•	•	
ECU (no SRS/safety function)	•	•	•
Wiring loom	•	•	
ABS actuator	•	•	•
ABC control module	•	•	•
Brake master cylinder	•	•	•

Brake booster system	•	•	•
Brake calipers	•	•	•
Drum brake cylinders and parts	•	•	•
Line pressure valves	•	•	•
Brake lamp switch	•	•	•
Ignition switch	•	•	•
Lamp switches	•	•	•
Lamp wiring and connectors	•	•	•
Lamp relay(s)	•	•	•
Horn, relay and switch	•	•	•
Wiper motor and switch	•	•	•
Speedometer	•	•	•
Door locks and latches	•	•	•
Brake fluid	•	•	
Power steering fluid	•	•	
Lamp assemblies	•	•	•
Glazing	•	•	•
Throttle cable	•	•	•
Handbrake cable	•	•	•

¹ Seatbelts may be repaired. Refer to Reason for rejection 7.

² Refer to [section 5-3 Airbags](#) in this manual

- The component must only be replaced using one of these options.

Summary of legislation

Applicable legislation

- [Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Repair 1998](#)
- [Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Standards Compliance 2002](#).

Repair requirements

1. The vehicle must be treated as though it has been fully immersed in water contaminated with silt and/or corrosive salts.
2. All body panels and structure must have all water contamination and residue removed from their cavities and the vehicle's corrosion protection restored.
3. If there is evidence that the vehicle has not been fully immersed and/or the composition of the water is known and a deviation from the requirements of **Table 9-1-1** is sought, this must be presented to the Vehicles Unit of the NZTA and permission granted to deviate from the requirements listed in the table.

Certification process

4. The repair certifier must specify what repairs must be carried out to reinstate the vehicle to requirements of the Repair Rule (and any other relevant rules). The repair certifier should indicate at what stages he wishes to inspect the vehicle before repairs can proceed.
5. When carrying out inspections, the repair certifier must obtain documents that outline the history of the replacement components. The Repair Rule requires that designated components must be replaced with new or with used components. For used components the full history of the donor vehicle must be known and that history must not prevent the vehicle from being restored to within safe tolerance of its state when first manufactured.
 - a) Intermediate inspections must occur at a time when a repair certifier can determine with confidence that the repairs have been carried out in accordance with their instructions and the rules.
 - b) In the final inspection a repair certifier must only certify a vehicle as being compliant, if they are fully satisfied that all necessary repairs have been completed to their instructions and the vehicle is now compliant with the Rule.
 - c) Once point (b) is complete the vehicle may go through the entry level inspection to allow it to be registered. The vehicle is still subject to the entry requirements.

Page amended **29 October 2013** (see [amendment details](#)).